Moscow: U.S. Attack on Iraq Violation of International Law

MOSCOW — The United States violated international law by attacking Iraq without UN authorization, but Washington's action did not undermine Russian-U.S. cooperation in the Middle East peace process, a senior Russian diplomat said Wednesday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Posuvalyuk, a Middle East specialist, told the weekly Argumenty i Fakty that the United States had "assumed the right to decide who is just and who is guilty in the conflict between the Iraqi government and the Kurds."

(Contd on Pg. 14)



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Netanyahu Signalling Israeli Key Role in U.S. Politics

NEW YORK — In speaking to the conference of presidents of major American Jewish Organizations, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was signalling its key role in U.S. politics as it marked its 40th anniversary Tuesday.

Vice President Al Gore and Republican vice presidential candidate Jack Kemp were also present at the birthday of the organization, which represents around 5.8 million Jews in the United States.

(Contd on Pg. 14)

U.S. Approved Iraqi Attack



NATEQ NOURI

TEHRAN — "Iran strictly opposes the partition of Iraq but Turkey is fishing in troubled waters in line with its repeated goals," Majlis Speaker Ali Akhar Nateq Nouri said here Wednesday.

Talking to a group of reporters on underlying policies which guided Iraq's recent aggression, Nateq Nouri said Iraq entered into the UN-established safe havens with U.S. approval; otherwise, without such U.S. foreknowledge of Baghdad's intentions, it would not have dared to violate agreed rules.

(Contd on Pg.14)

Taleban Take Over Jalalabad City

ISLAMABAD — The Taleban militia Wednesday took control of the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad, Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) said.

The agency quoting a radio message from Taleban's main commander said the Islamic militia was in control of the city and its main airport.

No independent confirmation was immediately available.

Earlier the government in Kabul said its troops had entered Jalalabad after the collapse of the provicial ruling council led by a neutral governor Haji Abdul Qadir.

"Our troops marched into Jalalabad at 11 a.m. and secured the city and the airport," said Amrullah, spokesman for a Kabul government faction.

"We are now flying ammunition into Jalalabad airport and consolidating our positions in the city."

Haji Abdul Qadir, the former governor of Jalalabad and head of the Ningarhar ruling council, or Shoora, reportedly fled the city Tuesday after the fall earlier that day of Hisarak town, near Jalalabad, to the Taleban.

Sources in Pakistan, which Wednesday closed the main Torkham border crossing with Afghanistan because of the fighting, said Qadir had arrived in the Pakistan city of Peshawar, along with his son and a commander.

Amrullah conceded the total loss of Hisarak in western Ningarhar to the attacking Taleban force, but said "we were sold out."

He said the Ningarhar Shoora defenders of Hisarak were betrayed by the local commander, Haji Qadir's cousin Haji Daoud, a "secret sympathizer" of the Taleban.

In Jalalabad an interim Shoora formed Tuesday to replace Haji Qadir, reportedly headed by Engineer Mahmud, has been removed by the occupying Kabul government forces.

"There is no need of a Shoora in Jalalabad now," said Amrullah.

The city was previously in the hands of a Mujahedeen council allied neither to the government nor the Taleban.

Kabul troops headed by Defense Minister Wahidullah Sabawoon and General Fahim, of the National Security Department, spearheaded the government's advance into Jalalabad.

(Contd on Pg.14)

Rafsanjani Arrives in Harare



By Our Correspondent

HARARE — President Akhar Hashemi Rafsanjani arrived in Harare on Wednesday on the fifth leg of his six-nation African tour and was extended warm welcome by President Robert Gabriel Mugabe and the Zimbabwean people.

On his arrival at Harare airport, the president was welcomed with full military honors and 21 gun salutes.

The diplomatic representatives in Harare, the ulema (religious leaders) and the representatives of the Zimbabwean tribes also were present at the airport, while hundreds of men and women carrying photos of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Seyed Ali Khamenei and President Rafsanjani sang their traditional song during the welcome ceremony.

Republic of Zimbabwe is a landlocked state in Southern Africa, with Mozambique to the east, Zambia to the northwest, Botswana to the southwest and South Africa to the south.

About 55 percent of the population are Christians. The Asian minority comprises both Muslims and Hindus.

President Robert Gabriel Mugabe took office on December 31, 1987 after a general elections in the wake of the war of independence.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ali Khamenei visited Harare in 1985 to attend the summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and President Robert Mugabe visited Tehran in 1992.

Earlier in Dar es Salaam, Iranian and Tanzanian heads of state held last round of their talks on Wednesday.

(Contd on Pg.14)

Lebed Favors Yeltsin Resignation

BONN — Russian Security Council chief Alexander Lebed thinks ailing President Boris Yeltsin should stand down, he confirmed in an interview with the German newsweekly *Stern*.

Asked about previous statements that it was time for Yeltsin to step down, Lebed replied by asking, "Am I not right?", according to a transcript of the interview to appear in *Stern*'s next issue, out Thursday.

Stern's journalists then asked: "Before joining the Boris Yeltsin camp (in presidential elections in July) you attacked him as an ageing, sick party official who has completed his historic task."

"Am I not right?" Lebed demanded again.

Lebed also recalled a Kremlin joke from the era of Leonid Brezhnev, who also suffered severe health problems: "Today, following a long illness, and without regaining consciousness, the secretary general (of the Communist Party) resumed his functions."

"That is how decisions are made in Moscow now," Lebed added.

In an interview with AFP last Friday, Lebed said Yeltsin had to designate his replacement within a few days for the time he spends away undergoing heart surgery later this month.

In the *Stern* interview, Lebed restated his presidential ambitions, insisting he would stand again in the next poll for president.

(AFP)

Treaty Banning Atomic Blasts Adopted by UN Assembly

IRAN TO SIGN NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY

UNITED NATIONS — After 40 years of debate, the UN General Assembly on Tuesday overwhelmingly approved and opened for signature a landmark treaty that would ban nuclear explosions from the world forever.

But the assembly's action was not sufficient to implement the treaty because India, whose signature is necessary, has vowed to

(Contd on Pg.14)



UNITED NATIONS, United Nations (Sept. 10): Indian disarmament negotiator Arundhati Ghose (C) watches with other delegates to the United Nations as votes on a global nuclear test-ban treaty are collected at UN headquarters. Earlier in addressing the UN General Assembly Ghose said India would not support the "unequal treaty" which favors the world's five nuclear powers. The vote was passed with an overwhelming majority of 158 to 3 with 5 states abstaining.

(AFP PHOTO)

FOROUZESH:

Jihad Ministry Undertakes Development Projects in Africa

By Our Correspondent

ZANZIBAR — The Construction Jihad Ministry has undertaken several development projects in Africa, the Construction Jihad Minister Gholamreza Forouzesh said.

Speaking to the *Tehran Times*, he added that drinking water supply and irrigation projects are among the projects undertaken by the ministry over the past few years.

The ministry has thus far dug some 11 wells for providing the rural areas with drinking water. This is a basic step to rescue the rural population from certain diseases, he said.

The improvement of the drinking water supply network of Zanzibar is another project undertaken by the Jihad Ministry. Local people have warmly welcomed our activities in this regard, he said.



On the financial source of the projects, he said, the financial assistance of the Islamic Republic of Iran to such projects are very limited. Tanzania is the main financier of the projects, he said.

(Contd on Pg.14)

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In the Name of Allah

And do not make mischief in the earth after its reformation, and call on Him fearing and hoping; surely the mercy of Allah is nigh to those who do good (to others).

(HOLY QORAN)(7:56)

OPINION

Security Council Should Not Sit Idly By and Let Afghanistan Be Devastated

The flames of civil war have once again flared up in Afghanistan as Taleban militia are trying to capture Jalalabad to bolster their position vis-a-vis the government and other Afghan groups in the war-ravaged country.

Probably, the Taleban have not taken any lesson from what happened in Bosnia-Herzegovina and other similar events in the contemporary history. Even in Bosnia-Herzegovina--the most heat-rending tragedy of post-World War II era--the warring factions had to finally seat across the table to find a solution to the crisis.

We have already said in this column that military strategy isn't the best solution to the Afghan crisis. Perhaps the Taleban themselves are aware of the fact that fratricide is considered a major sin in Islam and a heinous crime by any international criterion. What, therefore, prevents them from stopping the fratricidal war is the influence of the U.S. and certain regional countries which are out to establish a foot-hold in Afghanistan to safeguard their vested interest.

First of all the U.S. must stop its meddling in Afghan affairs. Afghans should be allowed to decide about their future without any foreign influence. Unfortunately, the U.S., through patronizing the Taleban, has reduced Afghanistan into a devastated country.

Secondly, certain regional countries should keep in mind that instability in Afghanistan is a major stumbling block in the process of regional development. Peace in Afghanistan is a crucial prerequisite for regional cooperation.

Unfortunately some of the regional countries have sacrificed regional cooperation in the altar of short-term self-interest. But in the long-run such countries will lose more than what they gain.

This is time the Taleban come to their senses and realize that they cannot change the balance of power through capturing more Afghan cities and provinces.

Unless there is a consensus among all Afghan parties there cannot be any peace in Afghanistan. Even if the Taleban capture more cities and provinces, they cannot ignore people's aspirations. Presently people are totally fed up with austere measures, including barring women from school and employment, the Taleban have introduced in provinces they control.

Unfortunately, the Afghan groups are reluctant to accept that peace can be restored to Afghanistan only through consensus. This is why each Afghan group is trying to bring the whole country under its own control. Hence, they are not ready to bid farewell to arms.

The onus is, therefore, on the international community, specially the UN, to find a solution to the crisis.

It is high time the Security Council, in cooperation with regional countries, found a formula to put an end to the crisis. Tomorrow will be too late.

Iran, Tanzania Term Mutual Talks Constructive

DAR ES SALAAM — Iran and Tanzania in a 15-article joint statement here Wednesday, termed the talks between President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and President Benjamin Mkapa constructive and indicative of good cordial relations.

The joint statement was signed by the foreign ministers of Iran and Tanzania on the last day of President Rafsanjani's visit to Tanzania.

The statement stressed preservataion of international peace and security based on respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty of countries.

President Rafsanjani and President Mkapa also emphasized necessity of finding solution to the Middle East problem by tackling the root causes of the problems and preserving the rights of the Palestinian people.

The presidents praised efforts by regional countries and the Organization of African Unity to restore legal order to Burundi and lay foundation for a durable peace in that country.

The Tanzanian president welcomed President Rafsanjani's initiative to mediate between Uganda and Sudan to normalize political ties between the two African countries.

They also voiced their concern over imbalanced trade and unfair economic relations between industrial countries of the north and the developing countries and called for closer South-South cooperation.

Urging the Non-Aligned Movement to play an active role at international fora. the two presidents endorsed the approvals of the recent NAM meet in Colombia.

They also called for structural changes in the UN and active role by the General Assembly.

President Rafsanjani invited his Tanzanian counterpart to visit Iran. The visit is to take place in an appropriate time.

Meanwhile, the great mufti of Tanzania and members of the Supreme Islamic Assembly met President Rafsanjani Wednesday morning and reported to him the status of Tanzanian Muslims.

Rafsanjani praised the Tanzanian ulema for promoting Islamic activities in east Africa.

Meanwhile a letter of understanding and four cooperation agreements were concluded between the two countries at the end of President Rafsanjani's visit to Dar es Salaam.

The documents were signed at the presence of the two presidents by ministers of foreign affairs and construction Jihad as well as deputy minister of roads and transport on behalf of Iran.

The documents cover bilateral, regional and international issues in the fields of trade, investment, culture, health, agriculture, transportation, communications, rural development and tourism.

President Rafsanjani arrived in Tanzania on the fourth leg of his tour of six African nations which has also taken him to Kenya, Uganda, Sudan so far. The president left Tanzania for Zimbabwe on Tuesday. *(IRNA)*

Iranian Delegation Leaves for Kandahar

TEHRAN — A high-ranking Iranian delegation, headed by special envoy of the Iranian government Morteza Sarmadi, left here Wednesday morning for Kandahar, Afghanistan, for talks with the Taleban officials.

During the 2-day stay in Kandahar, the Iranian delegation is to exchange views with the Taleban leaders on issues of mutual interest, ways of finding a peaceful solution to the Afghan crisis in particular. *(IRNA)*

New Iranian Ambassador Meets Qatari FM

TEHRAN — Iran's new ambassador to Qatar Mahmoud Movahedi submitted a copy of his credentials to Qatari Foreign Minister Hamad bin Jaber al-Thani, in Doha Monday.

In this meeting the two sides expressed satisfaction with the expansion of cooperation between the two countries. *(IRNA)*

Kermanshah RCS Personnel Mobilized to Help Iraqi Kurdish Refugees

KERMANSHAH — The Red Crescent Society of Kermanshah Province (western Iran) has mobilized all its forces and facilities to help Iraqi refugees who have fled fighting in northern Iraq.

Dirctor General of the society Hossein Raziei said on Tuesday that a large amount of foodstuff, garments and tents have been sent for the refugees in the border areas of Javanroud, Sarpol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin.

Following a large scale attack launched jointly by Iraqi troops and forces of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) led by Masoud Barzani on northern Iraq, thousands of Iraqi Kurds mainly women and childern have feld to areas bordering Kermanshah Province of Iran.

The Iraqi Kurdish refugees, who have walked a long way on foot to reach Iran's border points and escape fighting, are desparately in need of foodstuff and other essential goods. *(IRNA)*

Ambassador Meets Italian Senate President

ROME — Iranian Ambassador to Rome Majid Hedayatzadeh in a meeting with Italian President of Senate Nicola Mancino here Tuesday discussed cultural, economic and political ties between the two countries.

The two officials exchanged views on issues of mutual inter-

(Contd on Pg.15)

UNHCR Confident of Iran's Cooperation in Assisting Iraqi Kurds

LONDON — The UNHCR said Tuesday that it is confident that Iran will help Kurdish refugees fleeing from their homes in Iraqi Kurdistan.

Information officer for the agency's London Office, Roy Wilkinson referred to Tehran's record of past coöperation, which has made Iran the world's biggest center for aiding refugees.

He said that a UN official in Sulaimaniya estimated that 80 percent of the residents had fled the city as the Iraqi-backed Kurdistan Democratic Party swept through northern Iraq.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has already started to move supplies in the region, including blankets and tents, but has not yet launched an international appeal in the hope the situation may return to normal.

Britain Overseas Development Administration, which is usually one of the first to react to a humanitarian crisis, said that it was also assessing the situation but stood ready to provide assistance.

Several hundred thousand Kurds are believed to have fled their homes with some 70,000 refugees already amassed on the border with Iran.

Iran currently accommodates over two million Afghan and Iraqi refugees from previous crises, despite more than one million being repatriated under plans that have not been fully implement because of the continuing unstable position in both countries. *(IRNA)*

Tehran-Islamabad Judicial Cooperation Discussed

TEHRAN — Iran and Pakistan can further cooperate in judicial field because of their Islamic and historical commonalties, visiting Pakistani Chief Justice Sajjad Ali Shah told Iran's Minister of Justice Hojjatoleslam Esmael Shoushtarti, here on Wednesday.

Referring to the experiences of the Islamic Republic of Iran in judicial field, the Pakistani official said he was confident that Pakistan by using Iranian experiences can succeed in Islamizing its laws.

Shoushtari, for his part, said that practicing Islamic laws over the past 18 years have proved that *Sharia* (Islamic laws) can be more effective than other laws in preventing crimes and administering society.

The minister also called on the Pakistani chief justice to speed up the implementation of sentences issued on those who had assassinated head of the Iranian Culture House in Lahore Sadeq Ganji in 1990.

On Tuesday Iran's Prosecuter General, Ayatollah Morteza Moqtadaei, received Pakistan's Chief Justice.

The Pakistani official who is currently in Iran heading a delegation, rejoiced at his trip to Iran and his talks with Iranian officials, and said his visit was aimed at exchanging views on Islamizing the laws in Pakistan.

He added that attending a session of the High Court of Iran was a good experience for him because he saw how freely the judges get together and discuss legal issues.

Ali Shah noted that despite the differences between the judiciary methods of the two countries, he hoped to use information and experience he gathered in Iran in his own country.

He also pointed out that Iran and Pakistan are concerned about drug problem and Pakistan is poised to implement Islamic penalties in that regard.

Meanwhile, Ayatollah Moqtadaei in the meeting emphasized necessity of following up agreements made by Iran and Pakistan and called for giving a fresh impetus to bilateral cooperation on interest-free banking as well as anti-narcotic activities.

As Iran and Pakistan are Islamic countries, implementation of Islamic laws is of vital importance, he pointed out.

Before meeting with Moqtadaei, the Pakistani official had attended a session of streamlining judicial methods held by the High Court of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the Justice Department earlier in the day.

The visiting Pakistani delegation, headed by Ali Shah, met with the executive director of the Qom Theological School Ayatollah Reza Ostadi in Qom Tuesday.

Pointing to the school's significant role in the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Ostadi said that the Qom Theological School is one of the major religious centers in the world of Islam for Islamic studies.

The Pakistani chief justice said that Islam throughout history has played a vital role in shaping human civilization. "We are witnessing Islam's worldwide revival today," added Ali Shah who arrived here last Saturday.

After paying pilgrimage to the holy shrine of *Hazrat* Ma'soumeh (SA), the Pakistani official visited Feiziyeh Theological School, where the late founder of the Islamic Republic late Imam Khomeini studied.

Ali Shah also visited the former residence of the late Imam and was highly impressed by his simple lifestyle. *(IRNA)*

Foreign Experts to Be Tained in Fighting Malaria in Bandar Abbas

BANDAR ABBAS, Hormuzgan Province — The Health Research Institute of this southern port city will start teaching foreign experts how to fight malaria according to intenrational standards as of next year, the head of the institute said here on Tuesday.

According to Mansour Mo'tabar, there are only two centers in Asia capable of malaria campaign techniques, one being located in Iran and the other in Thailand.

He said that in its future training porgrams, the center will give priority to African countries.

He added that malaria exists only in the southeastern parts of the country, there are no malaria cases in other parts of the country except those involving the transmission of the disease from outside the country.

The Health Research Institute is working on a new generation of anti-malaria drugs as the malaria parasite has become resistant to usual drugs, Mo'tabar said.

Inaugurated in Hormuzgan Province of Iran in 1955, the institute in Bandar Abbas is a subsidiary of the Health Care Faculty of Tehran University. *(IRNA)*

Plan Underway for Eradicating Illiteracy

TEHRAN — A plan is underway for the eradication of illiteracy in provinces, a deputy at the Literacy Movement announced Tuesday.

In an interview with the morning daily *Iran* printed Tuesday, Ehtesham said at present the plan is being implemented in three provinces.

Disclosing that the current budget of the movement amounted to Rls.140 billion, the official remarked that this figure would increase to Rls.200 billion next year.

The literacy rate in the country was 74 percent in the last Iranian calendar year, ended March 19, 1996.

Moreover, Ehtesham concluded, some four million people below 40 years of age would be covered by the literacy program by the end of the Second Five-Year Development Plan in 2000. *(IRNA)*

Bibi Hakimeh Project Become Operational Soon

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - a giant gas injection project, which was initiated six years ago with an investment of over Rls.175 billion, at Bibi Hakimeh oil field, has been terminated and it is expected to become operational soon.

Once Bibi Hakimeh oil joins the stream, it would save the country over $700,000 in hard currency daily, IRNA reported.

Oil experts believe that the Bibi Hakimeh Oil Field will bring about great transformation in the area economically speaking, adding that such an undertaking will also prevent the useless burning and waste of 150 million cubic feet of gas, worth $220,000 per day.

They also believe that Iran would be capable of producing 20,000 barrels of liquified gas per day once the number 1,300 Siahmakan plant goes on stream. This means that over one billion barrels of crude oil would be added to Bibi Hakimeh's oil production capacity.

French Economy Heads for 2% Growth Rate

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The growth rate of the French economy might rise from 1.0 percent now to 2.0 percent within the next few months, a member of the Monetary Policy Council of the Bank of France, Jean Boissonnat, said on Tuesday.

"France is not experiencing zero growth but moderate growth." of one percent per year, which is "weak but not nothing," he said on French Radio, as quoted by AFP.

U.S. Sanctions Fail to Deter Bids for Iran Projects

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - U.S. sanctions threats have failed to deter non-American companies from seeking to invest in Iran's oil development.

According to *Energy Compass*, a hard core of about six foreign firms are pursuing the offshore Balal and Soroush projects, which have a combined targeted production of 95,000 barrels per day.

Around four or five bidders are said to be lining up for Soroush, which is 80 kms south-west of Kharg Island, while the shortlist for Balal, some 90 kms off Lavan Island, was reported to be down to around three or four.

The Malaysian State Oil Company, Petronas, which recently took a 30 percent stake in Total's Sirri project, was named as foremost among those engaged in negotiations for Balal.

The offshore fields, list among 11 projects, are being opened up to foreign investment on a 'buy-back' scheme. Despite the threat of U.S. sanctions, the prospects of the policy were said by energy compass to be working favorably for Iran.

In the short-term, the National Iranian Oil Company was seen keeping output stable by developing new reserves, often by working around the edges of existing structures.

Energy Compass exampled the recent recovery at the giant Ahwaz- Asmari structure brought about by infill drilling that restored full production in July after one third of the field was said to have been shut-in to revive reservoir pressure.

Oil Market on Knife-Edge

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Oil prices surged again Tuesday with Brent benchmark crude opening in London 85 cents higher at 23.20 dollars per barrel (DPB) for immediate delivery as traders continued to adjust their buying strategies.

Rates have yo-yoed between 22 and 24 DPB since Iraq's invasion of the Kurdistan "no-fly zone" and the delay of its UN oil-for-aid deal last week that left the market in turmoil and refiners in the unenviable position of being unsure able stable prices, IRNA reported.

With stocks, particularly in the U.S., perilously low, analysts have been hastily revising their forecasts upwards, believing that the market could be on a knife-edge for the rest of the year and that prices could easily spiral again.

Petroleum argus said that the Iraq crisis had left the oil industry 'sailing too close to the wind,' having gambled that Iraq's return to the market would soften crude prices, improve refinery margins and boost product stocks.

It warned that it was 'unwise to bank on Baghdad.'

Refiners were complacent about exceptionally low levels of stocks and "relied on one of the world's least predictable leaders," it said.

Last year, refiners in the Atlantic basin slashed inventories to save costs, then delayed any stock-build this summer as they waited for Iraq's limited return.

Petroleum Argus said that the assumption was that around 600,000 barrels per day (BPD) of Iraqi exports would create a surplus and allow stocks to rise back to comfortable levels.

Instead, the U.S. in particular is seen desperately needing to rebuild distillate stocks in time for winter and on the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic coasts have now been forced to defer autumn maintenance, leaving the sector vulnerable to unexpected shutdowns.

With fourth-quarter demand expected to average 73.6 million BPD, *Petroleum Argus* estimated that OPEC and non-OPEC would only just be able to stretch to this level.

Khordad 15 Foundation Sets Up Schools

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Becoming operational another 111 schools in the first half of the current year, the total number of schools affiliated to Khordad 15 Foundation reached 1,167, a fax received by the daily said.

The newly exploited schools were constructed in an area of 12,995 sq.m in 19 provinces across the country.

Thus, the number of rural schools constructed by the foundation since 1992 increased to 1,167 with 4,257 classrooms in the deprived and remotest areas of 26 provinces. Some 21.7 billion rials was spent for establishment of the schools.

Another 283 schools under construction will become operational in the near future.

Iran to Attain Sustainable Development by Year 2021

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Iranian First Vice-President Hassan Habibi said in Sabzevar on Wednesday that the government's executive policies are aimed at pushing the country towards sustainable development by the year 2021.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of a conference on sustainable development, Habibi said that in order to achieve self-sufficiency the country's potentialities for development should be explored and studied carefully, IRNA reported.

By the year 2021 the country has to become free from depending on oil exports and in a bid to attain sustainable development people should learn to avoid extravagance and not to make exorbitant demands, Habibi said.

Consuming pattern in the country should change, communication routes should expand and the use of energy and water should be optimized, the vice president said.

"We should create strong faith and belief among people and encourage them to further contribute to the development of the country." Habibi added.

Habibi called on people to cooperate with government in expanding universities and other higher education centers across the country.

The government attaches great importance to Sabzevar which has been the birth place for many great scientific figures, the vice-president concluded.

Meanwhile the First Vice-



President Hassan Habibi put the biggest animal medicine production plant in the Middle East into operation in Farima, Khorasan province on Tuesday.

Rls.24 billion plus $12 million has been invested by the private sector and cooperatives for setting up Nasr pharmaceutical plant jointly.

Managing director of the company Abdolrahim Motahhari said Tuesday that besides saving the country $15 million, the plant would earn the country $four million through export of its products.

Motahhari said the plant had been designed, constructed and installed fully by the Iranian experts.

Meanwhile, Acting Minister of Construction Jihad Dr. Iravani said at the inaugural ceremony of the plant on Tuesday that of a total of 185 items of medicine required by Iran, 126 out were being produced domestically.



Nourbakhsh Visits Bank Tejarat Central Office



TEHRAN — Mohsen Nourbakhsh (second L) inspects the Bank Tejarat Computer Center here.

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Islamic Republic Central Bank president, Dr. Mohsen Nourbakhsh visited, the computerized system and central office of Bank Tejarat, a report faxed to the *Tehran Times* said. He was accompanied by deputy president of the Central Bank, Mohammad Javad Vahhaji, some central bank officials and Bank Melli managing director Assadollah Amir Aslani.

The visitors were briefed by the managing director of Bank Tejarat, Dr. Ali Reza Khatib, before inspecting computer site and microcomputer sections of the bank.

"The development of computer network and the routine of activities in the bank are satisfactory," Nourbakhsh said during his visit.

Enjoying intra-organizational experiences, new achievements of global informative science and state-of-the-art soft and hardware equipment, Bank Tejarat has made plans to offer computerized services in all its branches, noted Public Relations Department of the bank.

Bank Tejarat computerized system is mainly active in two applied systems of central office and branches.

Following completion, quality and quantity promotion of the computerized system, the bank will be able to mechanize all its banking operations as accounting, deposits, credit facilities, information services and credit files.

Sharp Decline in Tea, Leather and Gem Exports From India

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - According to the Commerce Ministry sources of India, the country's exports in tea, leather and gems and jewelry have registered a sharp decline in the first three months of fiscal year 1996-97.

A halt in Russian buying in the last three months has brought down tea exports from $68 million in the first quarter of 1995-96 to 63 million in April-June 1996-97, IRNA reported.

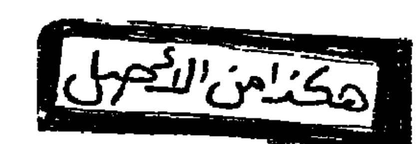
Gems and jewelry exports have fallen from $1,088 million in April-June 1995-96 to $1,048 million in April-June 1996-97.

Carpet exports have fallen from $148 million in April-June 1995-96 to $141 million in 1996-97.

Following the recently-imposed ban on imports of shrimps from India, exports of marine products are also due to decline.

However, marine products exports have gone up from $200 million in April-June 1995-96 to $221 million in the same period in 1996-97.

In agriculture and allied products, Indian exports have fared well, rising from $735 million in the first quarter of 1995-96 to $1,272 million in the first quarter of 1996-97.



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According to *Energy Compass*, a hard core of about six foreign firms are pursuing the offshore Balal and Soroush projects, which have a combined targeted production of 95,000 barrels per day.

Around four or five bidders are said to be lining up for Soroush, which is 80 kms south-west of Kharg Island, while the shortlist for Balal, some 90 kms off Lavan Island, was reported to be down to around three or four.

The Malaysian State Oil Company, Petronas, which recently took a 30 percent stake in Total's Sirri project, was named as foremost among those engaged in negotiations for Balal.

The offshore fields, list among 11 projects, are being opened up to foreign investment on a 'buy-back' scheme. Despite the threat of U.S. sanctions, the prospects of the policy were said by energy compass to be working favorably for Iran.

In the short-term, the National Iranian Oil Company was seen keeping output stable by developing new reserves, often by working around the edges of existing structures.

Energy Compass exampled the recent recovery at the giant Ahwaz- Asmari structure brought about by infill drilling that restored full production in July after one third of the field was said to have been shut-in to revive reservoir pressure.

Oil Market on Knife-Edge

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Oil prices surged again Tuesday with Brent benchmark crude opening in London 85 cents higher at 23.20 dollars per barrel (DPB) for immediate delivery as traders continued to adjust their buying strategies.

Rates have yo-yoed between 22 and 24 DPB since Iraq's invasion of the Kurdistan "no-fly zone" and the delay of its UN oil-for-aid deal last week that left the market in turmoil and refiners in the unenviable position of being unsure able stable prices, IRNA reported.

With stocks, particularly in the U.S., perilously low, analysts have been hastily revising their forecasts upwards, believing that the market could be on a knife-edge for the rest of the year and that prices could easily spiral again.

Petroleum argus said that the Iraq crisis had left the oil industry "sailing too close to the wind," having gambled that Iraq's return to the market would soften crude prices, improve refinery margins and boost product stocks.

It warned that it was 'unwise to bank on Baghdad.'

Refiners were complacent about exceptionally low levels of stocks and "relied on one of the world's least predictable leaders," it said.

Last year, refiners in the Atlantic basin slashed inventories to save costs, then delayed any stock-build this summer as they waited for Iraq's limited return.

Petroleum Argus said that the assumption was that around 600,000 barrels per day (BPD) of Iraqi exports would create a surplus and allow stocks to rise back to comfortable levels.

Instead, the U.S. in particular is seen desperately needing to rebuild distillate stocks in time for winter and on the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic coasts have now been forced to defer autumn maintenance, leaving the sector vulnerable to unexpected shutdowns.

With fourth-quarter demand expected to average 73.6 million BPD, *Petroleum Argus* estimated that OPEC and non-OPEC would only just be able to stretch to this level.

Khordad 15 Foundation Sets Up Schools

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Becoming operational another 111 schools in the first half of the current year, the total number of schools affiliated to Khordad 15 Foundation reached 1,167, a fax received by the daily said.

The newly exploited schools were constructed in an area of 12,995 sq.m in 19 provinces across the country.

Thus, the number of rural schools constructed by the foundation since 1992 increased to 1,167 with 4,257 classrooms in the deprived and remotest areas of 26 provinces. Some 21.7 billion rials was spent for establishment of the schools.

Another 283 schools under construction will become operational in the near future.

Iran to Attain Sustainable Development by Year 2021

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Iranian First Vice-President Hassan Habibi said in Sabzevar on Wednesday that the government's executive policies are aimed at pushing the country towards sustainable development by the year 2021.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of a conference on sustainable development, Habibi said that in order to achieve self-sufficiency the country's potentialities for development should be explored and studied carefully, IRNA reported.

By the year 2021 the country has to become free from depending on oil exports and in a bid to attain sustainable development people should learn to avoid extravagance and not to make exorbitant demands, Habibi said.

Consuming pattern in the country should change, communication routes should expand and the use of energy and water should be optimized, the vice president said.

"We should create strong faith and belief among people and encourage them to further contribute to the development of the country," Habibi added.

Habibi called on people to cooperate with government in expanding universities and other higher education centers across the country.

The government attaches great importance to Sabzevar which has been the birth place for many great scientific figures, the vice-president concluded.

Meanwhile the First Vice-President Hassan Habibi put the biggest animal medicine production plant in the Middle East into operation in Farima, Khorasan province on Tuesday.



Rls.24 billion plus $12 million has been invested by the private sector and cooperatives for setting up Nasr pharmaceutical plant jointly.

Managing director of the company Abdolrahim Motahhari said Tuesday that besides saving the country $15 million, the plant would earn the country $four million through export of its products.

Motahhari said the plant had been designed, constructed and installed fully by the Iranian experts.

Meanwhile, Acting Minister of Construction Jihad Dr. Iravani said at the inaugural ceremony of the plant on Tuesday that of a total of 185 items of medicine required by Iran, 126 out were being produced domestically.

Nourbakhsh Visits Bank Tejarat Central Office



TEHRAN — Mohsen Nourbakhsh (second L) inspects the Bank Tejarat Computer Center here.

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Islamic Republic Central Bank president, Dr. Mohsen Nourbakhsh visited, the computerized system and central office of Bank Tejarat, a report faxed to the *Tehran Times* said. He was accompanied by deputy president of the Central Bank, Mohammad Javad Vahhaji, some central bank officials and Bank Melli managing director Assadollah Amir Aslani.

The visitors were briefed by the managing director of Bank Tejarat, Dr. Ali Reza Khatib, before inspecting computer site and microcomputer sections of the bank.

"The development of computer network and the routine of activities in the bank are satisfactory," Nourbakhsh said during his visit.

Enjoying intra-organizational experiences, new achievements of global information science and state-of-the-art soft and hardware equipment, Bank Tejarat has made plans to offer computerized services in all its branches, noted Public Relations Department of the bank.

Bank Tejarat computerized system is mainly active in two applied systems of central office and branches.

Following completion, quality and quantity promotion of the computerized system, the bank will be able to mechanize all its banking operations as accounting, deposits, credit facilities, information services and credit files.

Sharp Decline in Tea, Leather and Gem Exports From India

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - According to the Commerce Ministry sources of India, the country's exports in tea, leather and gems and jewelry have registered a sharp decline in the first three months of fiscal year 1996-97.

A halt in Russian buying in the last three months has brought down tea exports from $68 million in the first quarter of 1995-96 to 63 million in April-June 1996-97, IRNA reported.

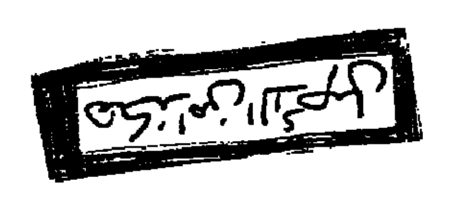
Gems and jewelry exports have fallen from $1,088 million in April-June 1995-96 to $1,048 million in April-June 1996-97.

Carpet exports have fallen from $148 million in April-June 1995-96 to $141 million in 1996-97.

Following the recently-imposed ban on imports of shrimps from India, exports of marine products are also due to decline.

However, marine products exports have gone up from $200 million in April-June 1995-96 to $221 million in the same period in 1996-97.

In agriculture and allied products, Indian exports have fared well, rising from $735 million in the first quarter of 1995-96 to $1,272 million in the first quarter of 1996-97.



12th Children and Young Adults International Film Festival to Open

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN -- The historic city of Kerman will host the 12th International Children and Young Adults Film Festival on October 5-11.

More than 30 countries have voiced readiness to take part in the international competition, with some 14 countries having confirmed they will definitely participate in the week-long festival.

During the festival, the following film subjects are to be featured in competition: Competing Iranian cinema: children, young adults and the holy defense: prospect of animation in Iran from 1979 to 1996; Silk Road's international film competition; Hiroshima's best children and young adults' films; competing film memoirs-"I and Cinema." and screening of Czech films.

Meanwhile, works of Majid Majidi and Kambozia Partovi are to be screened during the festival's film review segment.

Another segment of the festival, entitled "Children of the Silk Road," will present interesting films from China, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Turkey.

For the first time, works of the Iranian author, Houshang Moradi Kermani, will be reviewed during the 12th festival. In past years, several remarkable films have been produced from Moradi Kermani's children-related works.

The 12th Children and Young Adults International Film Festival is an annual film celebration which will last until October 11, 1996.

Turkmenistan UNESCO Sign Cooperation Memorandum

PARIS — UNESCO Director General Federico Mayor and Turkmen President Saparmurat Niyazov, now on a visit here, signed a cooperation memorandum on Tuesday night. It outlines the main spheres and forms of the development of relations in the sphere of science, culture and education.

UNESCO will help Turkmenistan implement the reform of the education system, specifically, will share with that country its experience of tuition with the use of several languages, a UNESCO source told TASS. Turkmen scientists and specialists will get a greater access to international data banks, specifically, with the help of Internet.

Turkmenistan and UNESCO will continue their cooperation in the sphere of information and the information science, including the training of journalists, the creation of an information network on management and the support for national radio programs.

The memorandum envisages international actions, aimed at analyzing ecological problems of the Caspian Sea.

Special attention will be devoted to cooperaion in the sphere of culture, the protection of historical and archaeological monuments, a source in the Turkmen delegation told TASS. Turkmenistan praises UNESCO's initiative to observe in 1999 the 2,500th anniversary of the famous old city of Merv.

Niyazov stressed that Turkmenistan showed interest in UNESCO programs and was

(Contd on Pg.15)

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil: Brazilian artist Valmir Vale poses with his sculpture made out of spent bullet casings soldered together August 2 on the rooftop of his home in the shantytown of Vigario Geralone of Rio de Janeiro's most violent neighborhood. The 11,826 casings used for the sculpture were collected over the past three years in the neighborhood by children who exchanged them for candy.

(AFP PHOTO)

Bill Monroe, Father of Bluegrass, Dead at 84

NASHVILLE, Tenn - Bill Monroe, whose high, lonesome vocals and fast-paced mandolin helped create a new, distinctive American music that came to be called bluegrass, died on Monday at the age of 84.

Monroe died in a nursing home where he was being treated for the effects of a stroke suffered in March. He underwent surgery in April to have a heart pacemaker installed.

Monroe introduced the world to the bluegrass with his first appearance in Nashville in 1939, playing the tune "Mule Skinner Blues."

Perhaps no other popular music owes its form so directly to one musician. He liked to refer to bluegrass as having a "hard drive to it like Scotch bagpipes and old-time fiddlin' — music that matters."

He came from the 400-person village of Rosine, Kentucky, the youngest of six boys and two girls who learned music from their fiddle-playing mother and their uncle who introduced Monroe to the mandolin.

In 1929 Monroe joined his brothers Charlie and Birch playing across the country with fast up-tempo numbers, high-pitched vocals, solid guitar and slick mandolin technique.

In the late 1930s his group took the name "Blue Grass Boys," in tribute to his native state Kentucky. In the ensuing decades the music — which combined elements of folk, blues, jazz, gospel and the Scottish and Irish ballads of Appalachia — became so closely identified with Monroe that it took the group's name.

Monroe and his brothers worked day jobs and played at night, performing on radio stations in small towns and in the Indiana steel-making belt.

Bill and Charlie Monroe cut their first phonograph record in 1936 at Charlotte, North Carolina, playing their best-selling "What Would You Give in Exchange?"

Over the years Monroe wrote a number of hits including "Blue Noon of Kentucky," "Kentucky Waltz" and "Uncle Pen," a tribute to his uncle.

In later years when bluegrass fetivals exploded in popularity Monroe was in demand on college campuses. His band spawned the careers of Lester Flatt, Earl Scruggs, Mac Wiseman, Stringbean, Sonny Osborne and Vassar Clements.

In 1970 he was inducted into the country music Hall of Fame, and in 1989 he won the first Grammy ever given for bluegrass music for his album "Southern Flavor."

He also won a Grammy lifetime achievement award in 1993. He last made an appearance at the Grand Ole Opry in March of this year.

Hal Durham, president of the Opry, called Monroe "The epitome of the stately, southern gentleman, a shy and generous man who was justly proud of the acceptance of bluegrass music and of his role as the 'father of bluegrass.'"

(REUTER)

50,000 Iranian Tourists Visited Historical Sites in Yazd This Year

YAZD — Since the beginning of this year, 50,000 Iranian tourists have visited cultural and historical monuments of Yazd, said Abbas Kaseb, an official with the Cultural Heritage Organization of Yazd Province.

He further added that the tourist attractions of the city included Ziaeiyeh School (Alexander's prison), Jame'a Mosque, Hosseinian and Lariha houses, Hasht-Gonbad dome, Vaqt-al Sa'at Square, and tombs of Seyed Rokneddir and Davazdah Imam.

He said that last year a credit of Rls.200 million was spent on study and research on the cultural, historical sites of the city.

UNESCO has recognized the city of Yazd as the second most important historical city of the world after Venice in Italy, due to its architectural styles using clay and mud bricks. (IRNA)

Ultra-Leftist out, Credit Card in, Says China's New Dictionary

BEIJING -- In a sign of its changing times, China has removed "ultra-leftist" terms from its standard dictionary and replaced them with 9,000 new entries such as credit card, karaoke and special economic zone.

The second edition of the 'Modern Chinese Dictionary,' which was published in late July, no longer refers to the "socialist imperialism" of the former Soviet Union and slurs against the defeated nationalists have been removed, said editors Dong Kun and Jia Caizhu.

Jia said the editorial team had worked hard to free the dictionary from "ultra-leftist" trends of thought which were all the rage during the early history of communist China.

"It is inevitable that the old edition included some political dogma from that time," she said.

An annotation to the term "anti-Japanese war" which said that the nationalists did not resist the invasion was also deleted because "it does not tally with fact," she told the *China Daily*.

The last 17 years of economic reforms have also forced a revision and expansion of some ideological terms.

For example, socialism, which was earlier described as the initial stage of communism where the proletariat controls the state's power, now has an addition by paramount leader Deng Xiaoping.

"The essence of socialism is to free productive forces ... and achieve Common Wealth in the end," the entry reads.

While 4,000 words were deleted in the three years of research for the second edition, China's leap into the modern world has provided 9,000 fresh entries comprising new sports, legal terms, computer jargon and even mild swear words.

"We are guided by the principle that a dictionary should faithfully record everyday language so slang and mild obscenities are also defined, due to their prevalence in people's speech," the editors said.

Although the first edition of the standard dictionary was commissioned in 1956, it was not published until 1978, when the political turmoil of the great leap forward and the Cultural Revolution had been calmed.

(AFP)

Anti-U.S. Aggression Film Wins Chinese Award Nomination

BEIJING - A documentary film depicting the Chinese army fighting U.S. troops in Korea more than 40 years ago has been nominated as the best film in a top Chinese film award contest, Xinhua reported Monday.

The film, "Contest: a record of the war to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea," includes actual footage of Chinese volunteers fighting U.S. troops during the 1950-53 Korean war, the official news agency said.

U.S. troops spearheaded the United Nations force which defended South Korea after North Korea invaded in 1950. Chinese troops, officially termed by Beijing as volunteers, fought alongside the North Koreans.

A spokesman for the Golden Rooster film awards, China's version of the U.S. academy awards, said the film recalls the war from a modern point of view and "exposes the aggressive nature of the U.S. imperialists, and sings the praises of the Chinese people's love for peace," Xinhua reported.

Meanwhile, Hollywood film "Forrest Gump," which won wide acclaim for its translation and dubbing into Chinese, has been nominated as the best foreign film.

Both films were presented by the August First Film Studio which is affiliated to the People's Liberation Army.

The Golden Rooster award winners will be announced during a major film festival in the southeast city of Kunming from October 9 to 13, it said, adding the festival would be "grandest ever" in China.

More than 30 Overseas and Chinese films will be screened during the combined Golden Rooster and hundred flowers film festival.

In the hundred flowers awards, presented Monday, the award for the top feature film went to "Red Cherry" a movie about an anti-Fascist war. Another winner was "July 7 Incident" an anti-Japanese aggression film.

Literary Critic El-Zayat Dies

CAIRO, Egypt — Latifa el-Zayat, one of Egypt's few women literary critics, has died after a three-week illness. She was 73.

El-Zayat died late Tuesday in a Cairo hospital, Egypt's Middle-East News Agency said. Her illness was not disclosed.

El-Zayat, who received her Ph.D. in English literature from Cairo University in 1957, wrote in Arabic on theater and the arts. She also published on English and American literature.

Among other posts, she headed Egypt's Arts Academy from 1972 to 1973. She was an English professor at Ein Shams University and headed the department there at the time of her death.

There was no immediate word on survivors.

(AP)

Ancient Buddhist Site Found in Indian State of Orissa

NEW DELHI — Indian archaeologists and historians have discovered one of the earliest Buddhist sites on Langudi hills in Jaipur district of the eastern Indian state of Orissa.

The preliminary excavation in the area has led to the discovery of rock-cut relief, two Buddhist monasteries, rare Buddha images, the wall of a monastery and cell and huge numbers of potteries.

The excavation was carried by the Orissa Institute of Maritime and South-East Asian Studies (OIMSEAS) in close collaboration with Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

Though it is yet to be identified that how old the Buddhist site is, findings of Terra-Cotta potteries suggest that it dates back to the second or third century BC.

The excavation has led to the discovery of two Brahmi scripts inscriptions which are yet to be deciphered.

(IRNA)

Protest Demonstration Against Miss World '96 in Indian State

NEW DELHI — A demostration was staged in Bangalore, capital of southern Indian state of Karnataka, against the Miss World Pageant to be held there from November 3, calling for cancelling the mega show, reported PTI.

Three organizations—Students Federation of India, Democratic Youth Federation of India and a women's body, Women's Awareness Organization—demonstrated in the city, saying it would promote wrong values.

Speakers at the meeting condemned the support being extended by the State Government to hold the show, which they said, was nothing but an attempt to impose cultural imperialism on our people.

The Miss World contest has already evoked protests from the women bodies and the state Farmers Association.

Miss World Pageant is going to be held in India for the first time.

(IRNA)

Understanding Kung Fu as Described by a Master

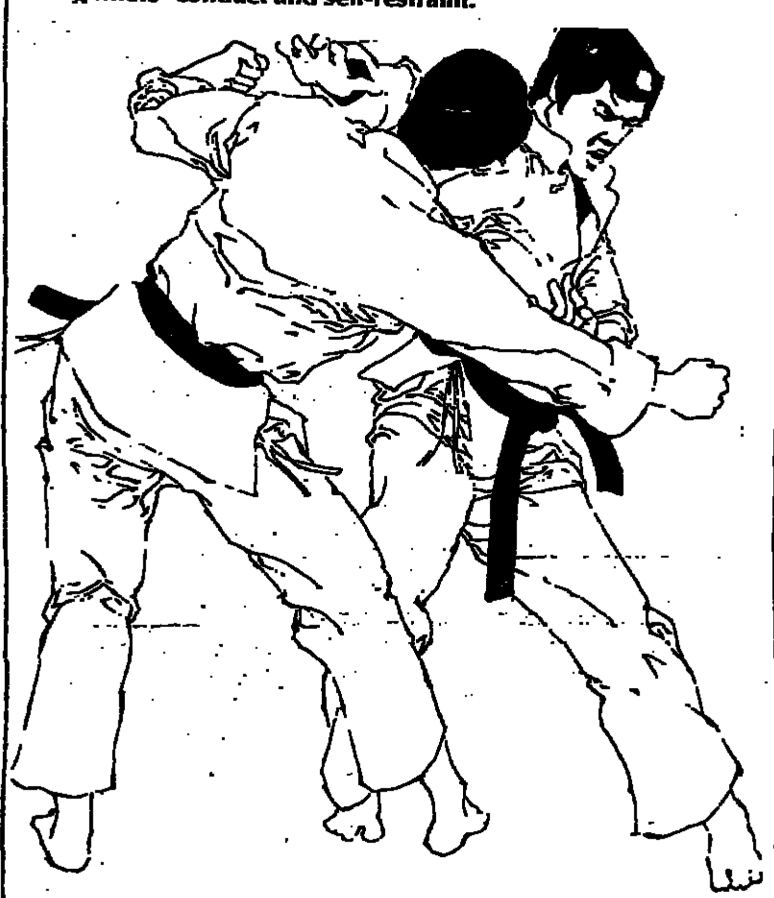
By Ja'far Qasempour Jahangir

(PART 6)

What Is Kung Fu?



At first look, there are seemingly no common points between boxing and arm-free fighting in such a philosophical system. But the principles of thought and exercises which came into existence in the wake of Chinese discipline, played a pivotal role in emerging domestic kung fu schools. In fourth century B.C., the Chinese philosopher, Chou Wung-Tezoo, developed the principles based on breathing method and also Chinese exercises while Mesenious insisted on strengthening one's power of will. The combination originated from *Chiay* (internal energy) promotion and *Ay* (will) turns back to the basic principles of kung fu's internal characteristic. Many secluded individuals who believed in Chinese method in arm-free fighting, became experts and later the promotion of Chinese method in the four corners of China had a great effect on masters' as well as beginners' conduct and self-restraint.



During the first and late years of Han's reign, the fighting skills over a long period of 400 years (from 206 B.C. to 220 A.D.) became very popular. It is believed that Emperor Han Woo-Tee has been one of the real supporters of boxing and wrestling so that the book under the name of 'Han Shoo-Wai Wan-Chee' consisting 6 chapters on methods of fighting with hand was probably written in the first century A.D. Unfortunately, these chapters have been lost and Western historians have no part of it.

The last era of Han's sovereignty (from 220-250 A.D.) has been introduced as the gradual shift from China's feudal despotism. Although, the civilians were applied in the country's wars in the last years of Choova's reign, but the history witnessed the fully-skilled villagers and even advanced fighting parties. At the same period, the famous surgeon, Hoova, innovated many exercises based on the motion of five animals: bear, deer, monkey, bird and tiger. Although, these practices were later improved by the kung fu innovators, but they are seen in Swedish kung fu now. After thousands of years, the documents of these exercises probably stemmed from the beasts' fighting systems, are available in Shaoolin Temple. Hoova-Too claimed that the usual performance of these exercises which he called as 'Five-Animal Feature' enables to recover a patient, strengthen the legs and guarantee the health.

It is believed that the first modern method of kung fu was taught in the last period of Han dynasty's ruling or perhaps some time of Three Sultans' sovereignty (220-280 A.D.). The method of 'Stretched Arm' is attributed to Kovaki who became known for his idea on faraway fight rather than hand-to-hand techniques which originated from development of *Coo-Fe* and *Chee-Ya-Yoo* — keep away from rival except the time of beating harshly on the length of hands.

Innovating a method, Kovaki became very famous among his contemporary people very soon. At first, it seemed a defensive tactic, but it was a deadly method for those who were not familiar with.

The 'faraway' method faced a series of changes and improvements until 6th century A.D. and then it was introduced as a professional one enabling an armless person to defeat his opponent equipped with heavy weapons.

Iranian Football Team Leaves for Bangkok

TEHRAN — Iranian national youth football team left here on Tuesday for Bangkok, Thailand, to participate in the Asian championship contests.

The competitions are to be held in northern city of Chiang Mai from September 14.

The Iranian team, comprising 25 players and four coaches, is to arrive in Thai capital on Wednesday.

The Iranians are to play in Group 2 against teams from the host country, India, China and Bahrain.

Iran is to play its first match against China on September 17. (IRNA)

International Coastal Cycling to Start in September

SARI, Mazandaran Prov. — The third round of a 6-day International Coastal Cycling Competition will start on Sept. 21, 1996 in Mazandaran Province, said Ali Zabihi, the provincial head of the cycling board here Tuesday.

He said that out of eighteen countries invited to the international contest, the republics of Armenia, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan have announced that they would participate.

He further added that Iran's youth and adults national cycling teams made up of selected members from the provinces of Mazandaran, East Azarbaijan, Khorasan, Tehran and Khuzestan are expected to take part in the competition.

The cyclists are expected to cover a stretch of 750 kilometers in the tournament which will be in six different phases. (IRNA)

Becker Pulls Out of Romanian Open

BUCHAREST, Romania — Top-seeded Boris Becker withdrew from the Romanian Open on Tuesday, quitting during his opening match because of pain in the wrist he injured at Wimbledon.

In his first match since Wimbledon, Becker retired after 35 minutes of play, trailing 3-5 to unseeded Christian Ruud of Norway.

"I felt a strong pain at 4-3," Becker said. "I hoped it would go away but it didn't."

Becker ruptured a tendon in his right wrist at Wimbledon on a service return in a third-round match against qualifier Neville Godwin. The German, this year's Australian Open champion and three-time Wimbledon winner, wore a cast for several weeks.

He skipped the U.S. Open because of the injury. (AP)

Hungary Confirms Olympic Swim Scam

BUDAPEST, Hungary — Half of Hungary's swimming team, with six Olympic medals, qualified for the Atlanta Games on the basis of fictitious times from a meet that was never held.

Government officials Tuesday confirmed newspaper reports of the scam and blamed the Hungarian Swimming Federation for submitting the fraudulent records.

"Fraud is fraud, and this was fraud," said Rezsoe Gallov, who heads the government's National Gymnastics and Sports Office. "We and the Hungarian Olympic Committee oppose any such practice."

Gallov said 11 of the 22-member Hungarian team had not met Olympic qualification times at national and regional meets. So a phantom meet was held and imaginary times were entered. Two swimmers were even disqualified for the sake of authenticity.

"These swimmers were all capable of meeting the Olympic requirements," Gallov said. "The trouble was that the federation leaders were too lazy to keep proper records.

"This meet should have been held, or at least a training session should have been called a competition to meet the administrative requirements."

MTI, the state-owned news agency, said Tuesday that federation head Tamas Gyarfas had resigned because of the scandal.

The Hungarian federation submitted the false records from the phantom competition to FINA, swimming's international ruling body, which compiled the world ranking list on the basis of which Olympic competitors were selected. (AP)



GUINGAMP, France (September 10): Inter Milan's Ciriaco Sforza (21) fights for the ball with En Avant Guingamp's Stephne Carnot (R) in this westtern French city during their UEFA Cup first round match. Milan won 3-0. (AFP PHOTO)

Sports Summary

Tehran Times Service

FOOTBALL

PARIS: Defending title-holder Bayern Munich made a disastrous start to its UEFA Cup campaign on Tuesday when it was hammered 3-0 in nonstop heavy rain in its first-round first-leg match at Valencia. The Spanish team was 2-0 up after half-an-hour thanks to an Engonga penalty and a goal by Piojo Lopez. And when Moya headed home a third two minutes into the second-half the German league leader was clearly rattled.

Other German clubs performed well. Moenchengladbach snatched a 3-2 win over the Gunners at Highbury and Hamburg beat Celtic 2-0 in Glasgow.

Newcastle United trounced Helsingborg's near-neighbors Halmstads 4-0 at St. James' Park with goals from Les Ferdinand and Faustino Asprilla inside the first 25 minutes and two more after the break from Belgian defender Philippe Albert and a Peter Beardsley gem.

But there was no fairy-tale ending for Welsh minnow Barry Town which went down 3-1 away to Scottish opponent Aberdeen.

Inter Milan opened its campaign brushing aside the challenge of French novice Guingamp 3-0 in the away leg and there was further misery for French fans when Lens missed a hatful of chances and then crashed 1-0 at home to Italy's ten-man Lazio.

DUNDEE, Scotland: Tommy McLean quit as Raith Rovers manager on Tuesday, just one week after being appointed, in order to take charge at fellow Scottish premier division strugglers Dundee United. The managerial merry-go-round went into overdrive as Billy Kirkwood was sacked by United and McLean walked out on a three-year contract at Raith to join his brother Jim, chairman at Tannadice.

LONDON: Former England boss Terry Venables ended rumors he could make a dramatic return to Queens Park Rangers by pledging himself to first division rival Portsmouth on Tuesday. Venables had been touted as a possible successor to Ray Wilkins at the Loftus Road Club he captained and managed, but he said he is happy with his new post as director of football with Pompey.

LONDON: Spurs skipper Gary Mabbutt will undergo surgery here late Tuesday to have a metal pin inserted in the left leg he fractured on the opening day of the season. An X-ray revealed that 35-year-old Mabbutt needs surgical help to allow the fractured bone to heal properly and it means his original estimate of being back in the game before Christmas is now delayed.

CYCLING

MURCIA, Spain: Belgian Tom Steels sprinted to victory in the fourth stage of the Tour of Spain cycling event held between Albacete and Murcie on Thursday, but was unable to wrestle the overall leadership from Frenchman Laurent Jalabert. But the stage was tarnished by controversy following a massive fall one kilometer from the finish, which prevented five-times Tour de France winner Miguel Indurain from figuring among the final surge of sprinters. Although the Spaniard did not come off his bike, the confusion caused by the accident, which occured soon after light rain began to fall, delayed him by 40 seconds.

TENNIS

BOURNEMOUTH, England: Candina-born British hope Greg Rusedski powered his way to an easy straight-sets victory over Bernardo Mota of Portugal in his first-round match at the International Open here Tuesday. But his compatriot Luke Milligan failed in straight-sets against Spain's Felix Mantilla. Other first round winners included Spaniards Sergi Bruguera and Alberto Costa and Australia's Wimbledon semifinalist Jason Stoltenberg.

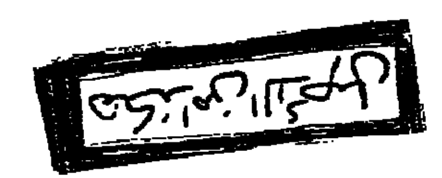
KARLOVY VARY, Czech Republic: Eighth-seeded Silvia Farina of Italy won only four games as she crashed in straight-sets to compatriot Flora Perfetti in the first-round of the WTA tournament here Tuesday.

BOGOTA: Venezuela's fifth-seeded Nicolas Pereira came safely through his first-round clash against Frenchman Jerome Goldmar at the ATP event here Tuesday when he scored a 6-4, 6-4 win. But sixth-seeded Marcelo Filippini went down to Uruguyan compatriot Federico Dondo 3-6, 6-1, 6-7 (3/7).

CRICKET

LONDON: Reformed Maverick Phil Tufnell was handed a surprise chance to revive his England career by being selected for the 15-man squad for this winter's tour to Zimbabwe and New Zealand on Tuesday. Slow left-armer Tufnell, who played the last of his 22 tests against Australia at Adelaide in January last year, has been left out of the international reckoning ever since after a series of disciplinary clashes. Tufnell, regarded as the best spinner in England, has taken 74 wickets this season and claimed a career-best 13 for 123 against Lancashire last week. The only other surprise is the inclusion of young Yorkshire fast bowler Chris Silverwood, who was widely expected to be sent on the A-Tour to Australia.

LONDON: England coach David Lloyd settled his differences with his employers by agreeing to a two-year deal with the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) on Tuesday. The former Lancashire opener was reportedly unhappy with the terms he had initially been offered, but the issue was settled during a meeting with TCCB chief executive Alan Smith. Lloyd was taken on in April on a special secondment from Lancashire for this summer only. But his success in the job led him being asked to continue for this winter's tour to Zimbabwe and New Eealand. (AFP)



Israeli Foreign Minister Criticizes France Over Iraq

PARIS — Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy criticized French reluctance to back the United States over Iraq, in an interview published Wednesday in the conservative daily *Le Figaro*.

"This attitude is incomprehensible. In (Iraqi leader) Saddam Hussein we are facing a permanent threat," he said.

"It is astonishing to see some leaders hesitate when it comes to ending that threat."

France last week expressed serious reservations at Washington's decision to fire Cruise missiles at Iraqi targets to punish Baghdad for an incursion into northern Iraq, a UN-declared safe area for the Kurdish population.

Asked if the situation in Iraq was a danger to Israel, Levy said, "We are taking precautions. We are following closely everything that happens and we are prepared to do whatever is necessary for the safety of our citizens."

Levy said he hoped unconditional talks with Syria on the Middle East peace process could resume soon. "We want peace with Syria but Syria is adopting an inflexible attitude," he added.

He also expressed optimism that agreement would be reached with the Palestinians once certain security aspects were met.

Levy said Tuesday after a meeting with President Jacques Chirac and Foreign Minister Herve de Charette that he had asked France to act as go-between with a message to its neighbors Syria and Lebanon on the stalled peace talks.

At their meeting, Chirac warned Levy of French fears that hopes for a new era of peace and stability in the Middle East could be dashed.

In contrast to his Labor predecessor Shimon Peres, Israel's right-wing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has ruled out the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Golan Heights which were occupied by Israel in 1967 and later annexed from Syria.

Muslim Party Asks Kashmir Leaders to Give Up Secessionism

NEW DELHI — India's oldest Muslim party on Monday asked Kashmiri Muslim leaders to give up their secessionist campaign and begin peace talks with New Delhi.

The Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) said the All Party Freedom Conference, an umbrella group of Kashmiri separatist groups, should campaign for autonomy within India.

"I told the (conference) chairman not to expect any support from Muslims in India over their agenda of secession," IUML secretary E. Ahmed, an Indian MP, said in Srinagar.

"We favor granting autonomy to Kashmir," the Press Trust of India quoted him as saying during two-day trip to the state. "But it should be within the parameters of the Indian constitution."

Ahmed also criticized the 30-member conference for boycotting this month's elections to the Kashmir assembly, the first to be held in a decade, saying bullets would never solve their grievances.

"All those who disrupt or oppose the establishment of a democratic set-up are not doing any good for the people of Kashmir," The assembly election is a welcome and right step," Ahmed said.

(AFP)

Small Bomb Explodes in Israeli Mall

HERTZLYA, Israel — A small firebomb exploded early Wednesday in a shopping center in this northern Tel Aviv suburb, but caused no injuries or damage, police said.

The explosive device was hidden in a trash can and exploded before many shoppers were in the mall, they said.

Police investigators said they suspected the attack was criminally and not politically motivated.

(AFP)

Iraq Fires Two Missiles in No Fly Zone

WASHINGTON — Iraqi forces fired two anti-aircraft missiles in the northern no-fly zone while U.S. planes patrolled the area, and two Iraqi aircraft violated the southern no-fly zone, the Pentagon said Wednesday.

Pentagon spokesman Lieutenant Commander Scott Campbell could not confirm when the two surface-to-air missiles were fired but said U.S. aircraft were not close enough to detect the missiles, which were picked up by other, unspecified electronic devices.

Separately, an Iraqi helicopter, and MiG-25 warplane violated the southern no-fly zone, he said. The exact time of those incidents was unclear, he added.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

MOSCOW...

"Russia disagreed with this violation of international law. However, the divergence between our position on Iraq and the U.S. position has not undermined our cooperation as co-sponsors of the Middle East peace process," Posuvalyuk said.

U.S. warships and warplanes fired 44 Cruise missiles at military targets in southern Iraq last week to punish Baghdad for sending troops into the Kurdish "safe haven" set up after the 1991 Persian Gulf war.

Iraqi forces helped the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) to capture the main northern Iraqi city of Arbil from the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) on August 31.

Said Mohana al-Durra, the Arab League's ambassador to Moscow, Wednesday condemned the U.S. missile strikes against Iraq, saying they had "put the United Nations in an awkward position, and deprived the UN of the world community's trust."

Speaking to reporters here, Durra said Washington's "unilateral Decision set a precedent for destabilization" in the region.

The United States threatened Tuesday to launch further attacks on Iraq for repairing air defense sites in southern Iraq, warning it would act to protect U.S. pilots.

Meanwhile, Russia has condemned Turkey's plan to establish a security zone in Iraqi Kurdistan, saying it would seriously violate Iraqi sovereignty and may further destabilize the situation in the region.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

RAFSANJANI...

Tanzanian President Benjamin William Mkapa at the meeting expressed his happiness about Tehran's strong political will for increasing its political, cultural, economic and trade cooperation with Dar es Salaam.

He said the time is ripe for experts, industrialists, entrepreneurs and traders to make use of the current suitable conditions for exploring ways of deepening bilateral ties aimed at increasing south-south cooperation.

President Rafsanjani said for his part that no doubt if Iran and Tanzania made use of their potentialities, Tanzania would make giant strides towards development.

He voiced Iran's readiness to put an aluminium plant into operation in Tanzania and offer its experience to the country in curbing surface waters.

He added that surprisingly, certain Western countries that have black record in Africa, claim to safeguard human rights.

The president noted that Iran offers cooperation to Africa and is ready to proceed in this direction without delay.

President made a clear proposal on Tanzania's repayment of its overdue debts to Iran which was accepted by the Tanzanian side.

Moreover, President Rafsanjani proposed setting up a flight between Tehran and Dar es Salaam and also opening of Tanzanian Embassy in Iran in a bid to help expand bilateral ties.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

JIHAD...

President Rafsanjani has announced Iran's readiness to share Iran's construction experience with African countries.

In almost all his speeches, President Rafsanjani has emphasized that contrary to the Western countries, Iran never aims to exploit the oppressed African nations.

Of course for any development project in any part of Africa, a reasonable interest should be allotted to Iranian contractors.

History has proven that development of Africa from Western point of view has been tantamount to exploitation of the oppressed continent. In other words, Western colonialists entered Africa under the pretext of developing the continent.

About 97 percent of the inhabitants of Zanzibar are Muslim. They have a special respect for the Islamic republic of Iran.

Some 400 years ago a group of Iranians migrated to Zanzibar from Shiraz, Farce Province. They have maintained some of traditional values including the Persian language.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

TALEBAN...

Amrullah noted that although Hisarak had been lost to the Taleban the defense of Jalalabad was of more concern.

"For now Jalalabad is our top priority," Amrullah said.

He said government jets had bombed an advancing 600-man Taleban truck convoy in the Ningrahar district of Khogiani, which was reportedly moving on Jalalabad.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

U.S. ...

"It seems that Washington gave the green light to Baghdad to go ahead cracking down on the Kurds in cooperation with the Democratic Party of Kurdistan. Therefore, in a bid to suppress opposition, Saddam Hussein launched the attack against the Kurd-populated areas in northern Iraq causing displacement of innocent civilians," he explained.

The speaker said that the U.S. harbors a deep hatred towards Iran and, in order to forestall a revival of Islamic thinking and culture in the region, especially among the Kurds, it tries to divide them.

Asked about the buffer zone which Turkey announced it would establish inside Iraq, he said that Iran condemns the idea and will not tolerate it.

"Iran will oppose any move which threatens the territorial integrity of its neighboring countries," he said.

Referring to the regional and border problems between Turkey and Iraq, he said that Turkish claims on parts of northern Iraq are rejected by the Iraqis and, under the pretext of defending its claim, Turkey tries to step up its forces on the opposition group (PKK) which it claims to be separatist.

As for the mass exodus of Iraqi refugees toward the Iranian borders, Nateq Nouri said that due to the hospitality of the Iranian people and government, every catastrophe occuring along the joint borders will move victims towards Iran.

He said that the same pouring in of refugees took place at the height of the hardships caused by the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran in 1991, but Iran welcomed the refugees due to its Islamic responsibility, adding that the refugees naturally move towards a neighbor that is willing to accept them.

He said the U.S. is not really for the ouster of Saddam because of the fear that Muslims and interested powers in Iran take over in Iraq which will be a victory for Iran.

As far as the Clinton administration is concerned, the speaker said that maintaining Saddam in power would be to its advantage because it has been weakened and the U.S. can change it anytime it wants.

At the same time, he said, Clinton can prevent a consolidation of Islamic power in the region by keeping Saddam in power.

Asked about Tehran's possible response to Ankara's move, Nateq Nouri said that Iran has joint borders with Iraq and will not remain indifferent to Turkey's plan to create a buffer zone in Iraq.

Asked whether Syria and Iran will jointly work to defeat the Turkish plan, he said he was confident Damascus will not also favor it but that joint efforts to defeat such a move would have to be further studied.

(IRNA)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

TREATY...

block its ratification.

"I would like to declare on the floor of this August assembly that India will never sign this unequal treaty, not now, nor later," said India's delegate, Arundhati Ghose.

The vote was a lopsided 158-to-3 with India, Bhutan and Libya voting against. Abstaining were Cuba, Lebanon, Mauritius, Syria and Tanzania.

All five declared nuclear powers — the United States, Russia, France, Britain and China — support the document, but the treaty does not come into force until 44 states with a nuclear potential sign it. This includes India, which exploded a device in 1974.

Tuesday's resolution, drafted by Australia, approves the treaty and asks that it be open for signature as soon as possible. Its supporters believe that those nations who sign will abide by the treaty's provisions anyway and that, isolated, India over the next few years might change its mind.

"There could be no greater gift to the future and no better start to a new century, than a world in which this treaty is law from pole to pole, in every land, for all time," U.S. ambassador Madeleine Albright told the assembly.

"An end to nuclear test explosions will create a climate of confidence that will sustain today's trend toward smaller nuclear arsenals," she said. "It would also reduce subtantially the risk that the number of countries possessing nuclear weapons will grow."

And UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali called for speedy ratification of the treaty "so that our children and grandchildren can grow up without the threat of nuclear weapons proliferation."

India's ghose particularly objected to her country being included among the 44 countries that must ratify the treaty, saying: "As long as this text contains this article, this treaty will never enter into force."

Diplomats said New Delhi fears that sanctions might be taken against it in the future if it is the only country among the 44 that will not sign the document.

Pakistan said it would vote for the resolution endorsing the treaty but would not sign it unless India does so.

Iran is to sign the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) despite strong reservations over the final text, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was quoted as saying Wednesday.

"We were left with no choice — having to decide between a flawed treaty and abandoning the treaty altoghether," said Zarif, who headed the Iranian delegation at the UN General Assembly meeting in New York on Tuesday.

"Based on an overall assessment and a strong desire for nuclear disarmament, Iran will go along with the treaty, while preserving its poisition on several points," Iran's official news agency IRNA quoted him as saying.

The Test Ban Treaty was adopted by the UN General Assembly on Tuesday by an overwhelming majority of 158 states. India, Bhutan and Libya voted against it and five states abstained.

Iran had objected to several points in the text of the treaty during negotiations in Geneva in August, notably inclusion of Israel in the Middle East sub-group of the executive council that is to enforce the treaty.

Zarif charged that the text of the treaty in its present form did not go far enough, saying it only "banned explosions while leaving other avenues open" for nuclear proliferation.

"This text is grossly tilted in favor of a few nuclear weapons possessing states. It provides them with the opportunity to develop nuclear arms," he said.

He said Iran would "double efforts in cooperating with other non-aligned states to push for a program of nuclear disarmament within an agreed time-frame."

"We hope that other independent countries will join us in convincing nuclear weapons states that lame commitments to nuclear disarmament are not acceptable," the Iranian official said.

But he acknowledged that the treaty "with all its shortcomings 'should accelerate the process of nuclear disarmament."

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

NETANYAHU...

The group was started, ironically, at the instigation of a presbyterian, John Foster Dulles, who was U.S. secretary of state from 1953 to 1959.

Tired of being approached by a series of Jewish groups, he urged them to confederate. The six largest formed the presidents' club.

The conference is now made up of a wide range of 54 political, social and religious organizations representing 90 percent of Jewish groups. Dozens of others may later join.

The New York-based organization has privileged access top American, Israeli and other leaders who want to get a message to U.S. Jews. King Hussein of Jordan and Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski have been among those taking advantage of the forum.

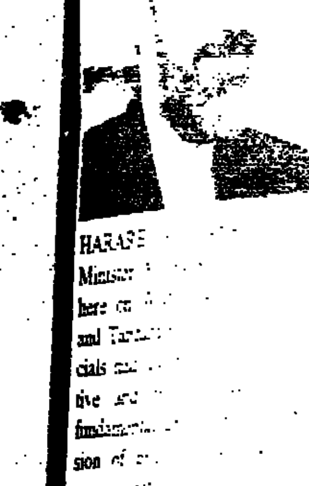
Netanyahu called for a "Jewish renaissance" during a speech here late Tuesday before some 1,400 members of American Jewish organizations.

As the 50th anniversary of the Jewish state in 1998 draws near, "What we should do is to declare a Jewish renaissance, reforge the bond between the Jewish state and the Jewish people," Netanyahu said to thunderous applause.

Netanyahu urged his audience to send their teenagers to Israel where "they can be part of rightist programs, of leftist programs, I don't care as long as they come to Israel."

Al Gore and his challenger in the upcoming November presidential elections, Republican Jack Kemp, both of whom used the occasion to press for votes. In 1992, 80 percent of the Jewish electorate voted for Democrat President Bill Clinton.

(AFP)





Velayati Hails Outcome of President's Visit to Tanzania



HARARE — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said here on Wednesday that Iranian and Tanzanian high ranking officials had during their "constructive and fruitful" talks taken fundamental decisions for expansion of bilateral cooperation in various sectors.

Velayati said that President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's practical suggestion. which drew Tanzanian President Benjamin William Mkapa's consent, for solving the problem concerning Tanzania's debts to Iran, was a big stride for expansion of Tehran-Dar es Salaam cooperation.

He added that Tanzania would pay its debts to Iran partly through sale of factory shares to the Islamic Republic, partly in Tanzanian shillings and about 20 percent in hard currency.

The minister said that Tanzania owes Iran money for purchase of oil, which now exeeded about $150 million.

He said that Iranian Contruction Jihad Minister Gholam Reza Forouzesh would, as the Iranian head of Iran-Tanzania Joint Economic Commission, handle the issue and explore ways of practically executing them within the next two days.

He said that removal of the problem concerning Tanzanian debts to Iran would facilitate Iranian entrepreneurs' contribution to development projects in that country and prepare the ground for flow of Iranian capital into the production sector.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Velayati said that Iran would assist Zanzibar in rice cultivation and in setting up of a publication center for Islamic and medical books.

He expected the volume of trade transactions between Iran and Tanzania to reach $300 million annually, showing a two-fold increase.

He added that Iranian and Tanzanian heads of state had agreed on the inauguration of the Tanzanian Embassy in Tehran and an Iranian consulate on the Island of Zanzibar.

Iran and Tanzania issued a joint delcaration and signed a memorandum of understanding in the area of culture on Wednesday. (IRNA)

(Contd from Pg. 2)

AMBASSADOR...

est such as need for broadening the existing bilateral cooperation.

The key international issues including need for revising structure of the UN Charter and the Security Council were also raised in the meeting.

They also reviewed the latest developments in northern Iraq. (IRNA)

Earthquake Rattles Tokyo

TOKYO – Tokyo was rocked by its biggest earthquake in more than a year Wednesday, but escaped with little damage because it was centered far beneath the floor of the Pacific Ocean.

The quake, which struck shortly before noon with a preliminary magnitude of 6.6, sent large buildings swaying back and forth, and briefly closed down several airports and train lines.

The intense shaking for about one minute caught many people off guard in Tokyo and cities to the east. And it served as a reminder to this earthquake-prone country that the capital remains deeply vulnerable to major seismic disturbances.

Wednesday's quake was centered 40 kilometers (25 miles) off the Pacific coast east of Tokyo, and 30 kilometers (19 miles) under the ocean floor, the central meteorological agency said. (AP)



TEHRAN (Sept.12): People donate gifts to the deprived students on the occasion of one-day Charity Festival simultaneous with the commencement of the 1996-97 new academic session here today.

Iran Shelters 39,000 Iraqi Refugees

TEHRAN – Director General of the Department for Foreign Nationals at the Interior Ministry Ahmad Husseini said on Wednesday Iran has sheltered 39,000 Iraqi refugees escaping from the joint military offensive of Saddam Hussein and Barezani.

He said the refugees were given shelter in the suburbs of Baneh, Sardasht and Kermanshah.

Husseini said Iran has gone ahead with relief operation for the other 160,000 Iraqi refugees stranded behind the border lines.

He said the relief workers are busy setting up temporary refugee camps on the border areas and emergency food supplies, blankets, clothes and drinking water were sent to the area.

He said health workers have been stationed on the border lines.

Husseini added that representatives of the United Nations exchanged views with Iranian officials on the latest situation of the refugees and reached agreement on how to deal with the issue.

He said the UN officials in Tehran said a team would be dispatched from United Nations Geneva office to study the situation.

Husseini noted that the United Nations officials were informed that Iran needs the UN assistance to supply food and emergency supplies for the refugees. (IRNA)

Mafia Hitmen Killed Cools

BRUSSELS – Professional hitmen in the pay of the Sicilian Mafia carried out the assassination of the former Belgian Deputy Prime Minister Andre Cools, a Belgian court was told on Wednesday.

Domenico Castellino, one of the five men charged with Cools' 1991 murder on Sunday, has admitted that he travelled to Sicily to recruit two Tunisian assassins who gunned Cools down as he left the home of his mistress, the lawyer acting for his defense told journalists after a preliminary hearing in the case.

The court ruled that the five men, who include former regional government minister Alain Van der Biest, could be detained in custody for a month.

Castellino's lawyer said his client had acted on the instructions of another of the charged men, Cosimo solazzo, and that he had no knowledge of who the intended victim was.

Belgian media have reported that Solázzo admitted organizing the hit but denied direct involvement. Solazzo refused to appear in court for Wednesday's hearing.

According to his testimony, Castellino travelled to Sicily after an unsuccessful attempt to recruit killers in Germany.

There he met a Mafioso known as Todaro who introduced him to two Tunisian hitmen in his employ. The men travelled to Liege to carry out the murder and stayed briefly in an apartment close to the river in which the murder weapon was found on Monday.

In a further twist, the Mafioso Todaro was himself assasinated in 1993 in circumstances which have yet to be explained. (AFP)

BAGHDAD, Iraq (September 10): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein (L) chairs a joint meeting for revolutionary and regional command council in Baghdad. Iraq is attempting to rebuild its air defense in southern Iraq, the Pentagon said September 10 warning it would take action to protect U.S. pilots. (AFP PHOTO)

Beijing Asks Tokyo to Contain Rightists

TOKYO – Japan faced increased pressure Wednesday from China and Taiwan in a territorial dispute over an island chain in the east China which has sparked public protests in several countries.

The Chinese Ambassador to Tokyo, Xu Dinxin, delivered a formal protest to Vice Foreign Minister Sadayuki Hayashi over Japan's actions around the islands, known as the Diaoyu to Chinese and the Senkaku to Japanese.

The Taiwan government, which has faced mounting public pressure to take a stronger stance, asked Japan to dismantle a lighthouse put up by Japanese right wingers on the islands.

China's Foreign Ministry made an open warning to Japan on Tuesday and Vice Premier Li Lanqing has called off a visit to Japan planned next month.

"Despite repeated requests by China, Japan has been letting these right-wing groups do whatever they want. Chinese people are outraged and want to issue a strong protest," Xu was quoted as saying.

"The islands have been Chinese territory since ancient times. Any structures on the islands are illegal." the ambassador said. "The Japanese side should take immediate action to correct the situation."

The Taiwan Foreign Ministry in turn appealed for Japan to demolish the lighthouse and called for all sides to stay out of the 12 nautical miles territorial zone around the island chain. (AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 4)

TURKMENISTAN...

ready to become their active participant, for which, in his opinion, Turkmenistan's neutrality is a good incentive.

Federico Mayor said that, in the present situation, with tension and conflicts being the order of the day in many parts of the world, Turkmenistan is an area of peace, neutrality and benevolence. (IRNA)

Tensions in Iraq Send Oil Prices Soaring

LONDON – Renewed tension in Iraq set the oil market ablaze on Wednesday when crude prices hit their highest level since January 1991 when the Persian Gulf war was in full swing.

The reference price for Brent North Sea oil (delivery in October) rose to 23.74 dollars per barrel in afternoon trade, which was 86 cents more than at the close of trade on Tuesday.

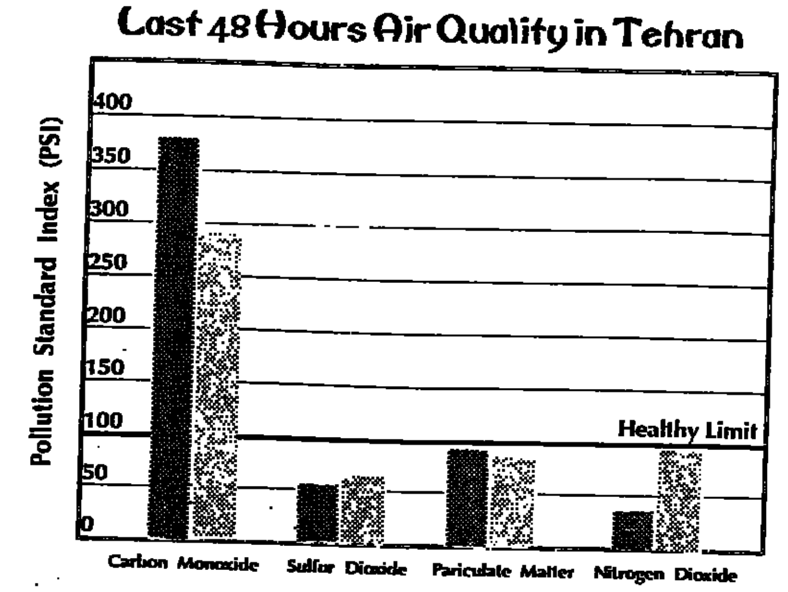
Prices rocketed in the immediate aftermath of an announcement that Iraq had fired two missiles in the northern no-fly zone of the country.

Continued conflict in Iraq has cast a question mark over the resumption of oil exports from Iraq and average oil prices have been hovering around their highest level since 1991 for more than a week.

Members of the main Iraqi opposition parties living in exile in London said that troops loyal to Saddam Hussein have been massing in southern Iraq since Monday.

Oil brokers feared the Iraqi leader might be preparing to launch another offensive in a UN-designated exclusion zone. (AFP)

Last 48 Hours Air Quality in Tehran



Five Elephants Drown Trying to Save Calf

NEW DELHI, India – Five wild elephants drowned in a river in eastern India, chasing a 3-month-old calf that had been swept away.

The calf survived the ordeal last week in the Teesta River and was sent to a wildlife sanctuary.

Some of the herd of 16 elephants tried to rescue the calf after it got sucked into the raging current about three kilometers upstream from a small dam and was swept through the dam's sluice gates.

(AP)

Egyptians Arrested for Trying to Sell Torah Scrolls

CAIRO – Eight Egyptians have been arrested for trying to sell five old parchment Torah scrolls for five million Egyptian pounds ($1.5m), the newspaper Al-Akhbar reported last week.

The eight tried to sell the scrolls of the Jewish holy book written in Hebrew on parchment made of deer skin to undercover officers who posed as members of a Jewish group.

Police turned the scrolls over to the Museum of Islamic Art.

(AFP)

Misuari Wins Southern Philippines Vote

MANILA – Former Muslim separatist leader Nur Misuari was declared winner on Wednesday of a vote for governor of a Muslim autonomous region in the southern Philippines, the official election body said.

"We wish to congratulate the winning candidates for governor and vice governor, professor Nur Misuari and Guimid Matalam." Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Chairman Bernardo Pardo told a news conference.

President Fidel Ramos also congratulated Misuari, chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), for winning Monday's vote in which he and his running mate, Matalam, ran unopposed.

A week earlier the 55-year-old former political science professor had signed a peace pact with the Philippine government, ending a 24-year campaign for a separate state in the south that left 120,000 dead.

Misuari's election is the start of a planned three-year reconstruction period for Mindanao, home to 16.8 million people including most of the 3.5 million Muslim minority.

He is also expected to be named head of a state council that is to oversee development projects in the region.

(AFP)

Troops Sink Tiger Flotilla, Nine Killed in Sri Lanka Fighting

COLOMBO – Government forces sank a flotrilla of seven Tamil guerrillas boats in northern Sri Lanka where fresh ground battled killed nine people, the Defense Ministry said Wednesday.

The boats belonging to the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) were sunk late Tuesday but there were no immediate reports of casualties, a military spokesman here said.

"We belive that each boat may have had about five men," the spokesman said. "We can't confirm that they all perished until we have some intelligence reports from the area."

In ground battles, at least six Tamil Tiger rebels and three soldiers were killed in sporadic fighting in the embattled northern region, the Defense Ministry here said.

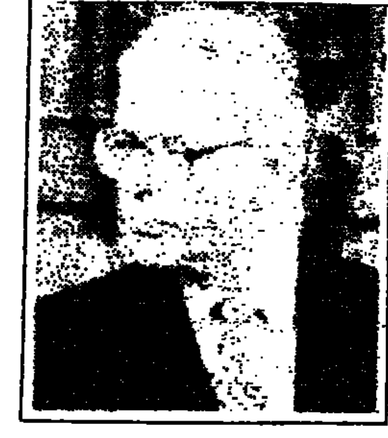
Troops exchanged fire with members of the LTTE at Pooneryn, leaving six rebels and two troopers killed on Tuesday, the ministry said.

It said another soldier was killed in a mine attack in the Weli Oya region, also on Tuesday.

(AFP)

Britain May Reduce Cattle Cull

BRISTOL, Southwest England – Britain may reduce a planned cull of cattle aimed at wiping out BSE, or "mad cow disease" from British herds, because of new scientific evidence suggesting that the disease may die out anyway in five years, Prime Minister John Major said Wednesday.



MAJOR

The move would avoid the prospect of the government being defeated next month in Parliament when the slaughter plan comes up for approval, in the face of heated opposition from backbench Conservative deputies in rural areas.

But it threatens to spark a renewed outbreak of tension between London and its European partners, just months after London ended a "beef war" with Europe over the EU's ban on British beef.

Major, responding to a stream of press reports that his government is due to decide today at a cabinet meeting to abandon the planned cull, confirmed that the matter would be discussed by ministers on Thursday.

But he refused to predict the outcome of the meeting, and underlined that the European Union would be consulted before any final decision.

"There is no pre-ordained outcome. What we are doing is considering it and we will no doubt wish to consult with the European Union and then we will make a final decision," said Major, on a tour of southwest England.

(AFP)

Rabin Assassin, Two Others Found Guilty of Conspiracy

TEL AVIV, Israel -- Yitzhak Rabin's assassin, already convicted of murder, was found guilty Wednesday of conspiring to kill the prime minister and attack Palestinians.

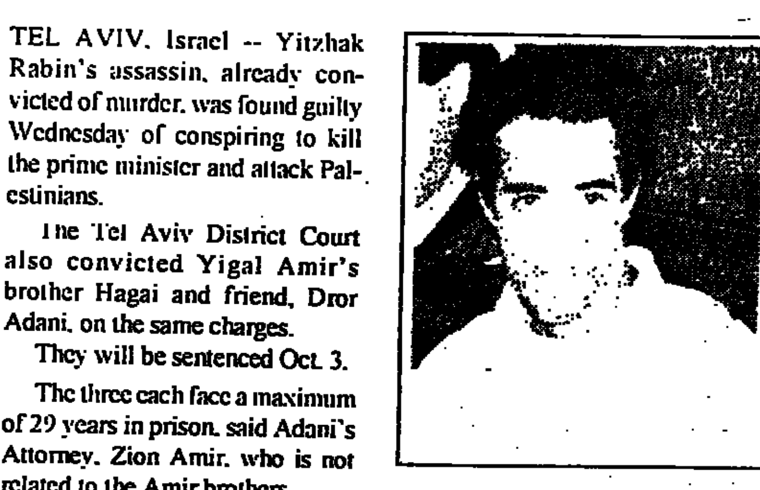
The Tel Aviv District Court also convicted Yigal Amir's brother Hagai and friend, Dror Adani, on the same charges.

They will be sentenced Oct. 3.

The three each face a maximum of 29 years in prison, said Adani's Attorney, Zion Amir, who is not related to the Amir brothers.

Yigal Amir is already serving a life term for the Nov.4 assassination of Rabin at a Tel Aviv so-called peace rally.

The Amir brothers and Adani were convicted of plotting to kill Rabin and attack Palestinians, as well as illegal weapons possession.



AMIR

Hagai Amir denied he conspired to kill Rabin, telling the court that while he knew of his brother's wish to kill the prime minister in hopes of stopping the peace process with the Palestinians, he disagreed with his methods.

Hagai, a weapons expert, was accused of making the hollow point bullets that were used by his brother to kill Rabin.

Yigal Amir told the court that Hagai suggested ways of killing Rabin, but that Yigal eventually concluded his brother's intentions were not serious. Yigal said Adani also opposed killing Rabin for fear it would cause civil strife.

(AP)

King's Intervention in Child Sex Case Sparks Row Over Royal Powers



BRUSSELS – Belgium's King Albert II was severely criticized on Wednesday following an unprecedented intervention into the debate over hat went wrong in the handling of the country's child sex and political assassination scandals.

Albert, who called Tuesday for a radical overhaul of the country's judicial system, "has breached the rules of the constitution." Belgium's most influential newspaper, the Flemish daily *De Standaard*, said in an editorial.

"His direct intervention can only strengthen the public's belief that politicians are failing in their duties, and that can only undermine democracy."

Another Flemish paper, *Laatste Nieuws*, said the monarch's intervention had set a "dangerous precedent."

The row followed a statement issued by the royal palace on Tuesday in which Albert called for "profound reflection" on how the judicial system could be made more humane and more efficient.

"It must also put in place a system of internal and external controls, and more adequate training to improve the judiciary's capacity to deal with the changing nature of crime," the statement said.

Le Soir, the main French newspaper, backed the king. The government had properly used the monarch to ensure that its message – that the country's establishment is determined to work out what went wrong – reached the people.

(AFP)

Okinawa Urges Moving Live-Fire Drills to U.S.

TOKYO -- Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota urged the government Wednesday to move U.S. army live-fire drills from the southern island to the United States, Kyodo news reported.

Ota made the request during a 50-minute meeting with Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda, Defense Agency Chief Hideo Usui and Chief Cabinet Secretary Seiroku Kajiyama, the news agency said, quoting a government official.

But the government gave no firm answer to the proposal, Kyodo said.

The Japanese and U.S. governments agreed in April to cut U.S. bases in Okinawa by 20% and relocate live-fire drills to mainland Japan in an effort to ease anti-U.S. sentiment on the island.

Although the Japanese government has asked several local governments to accept the exercises, most of them have expressed strong opposition to the plan.

Okinawa, which has less than one percent of Japan's land area, has 75 percent of all U.S. military facilities in the country.

(AFP)

40 Feared Dead in Boat Capsize

NEW DELHI, India – A boat sank in a Himalayan river in northern India and at least 40 people were feared drowned, a local news agency reported Wednesday.

The river taxi was carrying about 60 people when it sank Tuesday night in the Rapti River near Katraghat in the state of Uttar Pradesh, Press Trust of India news agency reported.

Twenty passengers swam to safety, it quoted local officials as saying. Rescue efforts were going on, it said. Details of the disaster were sketchy because of poor telecommunications links in the area.

Katraghat is about 375 kilometers (230 miles) east of New Delhi.

(AP)

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS



CHITTAGONG - Tribal insurgents in Bangladesh's southeastern Chittagong hill tracts have killed 30 Bengali-speaking settlers.

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Senate voted overwhelmingly on Tuesday to restrict same-sex marriages, then by the narrowest of margins defeated a measure extending civil rights job protections to gay men and lesbians.

KIGALI - Rwandan Justice Minister Marthe Mukamurenzi has resigned after admitting taking government funds.

BOGOTA - Vice President Humberto De la Calle resigned Tuesday, positioning himself as a leader of the growing opposition to President Ernesto Samper.

JAKARTA - Indonesian opposition leader Megawati Sukarnoputri Wednesday held a meeting with party officials from across the country, despite the lack of official recognition of her faction.

CUENCA, Spain - Six people were killed and 22 wounded Wednesday when a Moroccan bus skidded off a wet road and plunged from a bridge in the Cuenca Province in eastern Spain.

HANOI - Typhoon Sally killed one person and injured four others in northern Vietnam after leaving 153 dead and 130 missing in China.

JOHANNESBURG - Gunmen shot dead eight people late Tuesday at a migrant workers' hostel in the sprawling black township of Soweto near here.

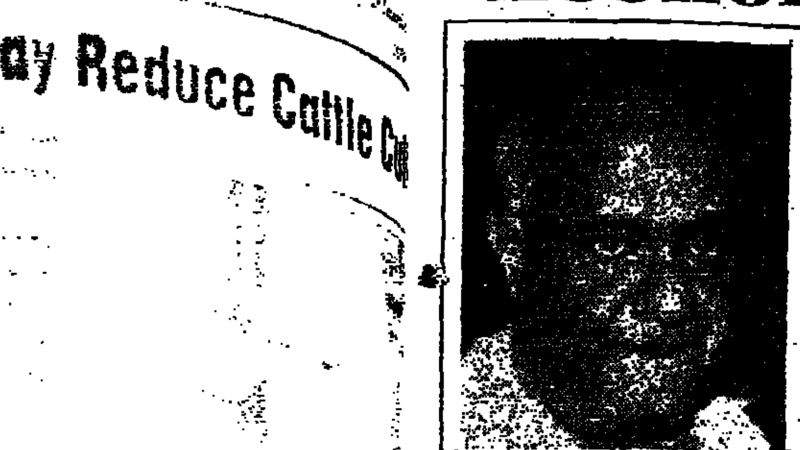
SEOUL - South Korean police on Wednesday arrested 24 students of two underground leftist groups on charges of forming pro-North Korean networks.

BUJUMBURA - Hutu rebels killed 15 people in an attack and a separate ambush, the Tutsi-dominated Burundian army announced Wednesday as the country reeled over the assassination of its archbishop.

PHNOM PENH - A formal request from Cambodia's co-premiers to pardon renegade Khmer Rouge leader Ieng Sary will be forwarded to King Norodom Sihanouk very soon, first PM said.

DJIBOUTI - At least 10 people were killed when a goods train went off the rails near Ali-Sabieh in southern Djibouti on its way to Ethiopia.

India Will Promote Economic Reforms: PM


GOWDA


RAO

NEW DELHI, India — India's Prime Minister on Tuesday promised greater transparency in government to attract $10 billion in foreign investment and to further the economic reforms of his predecessor.

"There is no question of suppressing or hiding anything that will create any suspicion in the minds of investors," H.D. Deve Gowda told a meeting of industrialists in New Delhi.

Since becoming prime minister three months ago, his government has cleared all the pending 350 projects worth $4 billion, Gowda told the "Destination India" conference on investment opportunities.

The earlier government of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao was widely hailed by foreign investors for dismantling India's socialist economy and adopting free market policies. The moves were criticized by opposition parties for boosting food prices, increasing unemployment and pushing more people into poverty.

Gowda dispelled fears among foreign investors that his 13-party coalition of socialist and communist parties would undo the economic reforms. He also stressed more social safety nets to protect the poor.

He said the government aimed at an annual 12 percent industrial growth and would try to double the 3.5 percent growth rate of the gross domestic product.

In a bid to attract more investment in infrastructure areas such as power and roads, Gowda said state governments will now be able to approve power projects costing up to 10 billion rupees ($277 million).

Gowda noted that despite five years of economic reforms, India has not made any impressive performance in promoting investment in the power sector, Gowda said.

Gowda said the government wants to build a road network that will improve links between all major ports in the country.

India needs an estimated minimum investment of $200 billion in infrastructure projects over the next four years, Industry Minister Murasoli Maran told the conference.

"To develop world class infrastructure is an area of high priority for us and through various fiscal incentives, we will make investments in this area more attractive to foreign and domestic investors," Maran said. (AP)

ASEAN at Odds Over Dispute Settlement System

JAKARTA — Vietnam has denied holding up a landmark trade dispute settlement system for southeast Asian nations, saying several prickly issues needed to be resolved before an agreement is signed.

Vietnamese official Tran Duc Minh, however, admitted Hanoi's delegation to a meeting of economic ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) here did not have a cabinet mandate to sign the accord.

He told reporters late Tuesday that Vietnam alone was not to blame for delaying the agreement, which the Seven-Nation Group had been expected to sign at this week's meetings.

"It is totally wrong," he said, referring to remarks by some ASEAN delegates that Vietnam had held up the agreement.

"Not Vietnam but other countries raised the matter for further deliberations," Tran said after a two-day meeting of senior officials which set the ground for the ministerial meetings.

Tran said even the Philippines, Indonesia and Singapore had made "some comments and proposals" that should be considered before the agreement is ready for signature.

Tran said member-states had yet to decide whether parties to a trade dispute could be included in an arbitration panel, what the penalties should be and how they should be imposed.

He said ASEAN, which groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, also had still not decided whether members could approach other forums such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) for arbitration.

Such elements needed to be closely studied and incorporated into a draft text for every member-country to "bring home and obtain mandate" to sign the proposed accord, Tran added.

The planned dispute settlement mechanism, modeled on the lines of the World Trade Organization's arbitration process, envisages a step-by-step and time-bound framework for resolving disputes, ASEAN officials said.

A panel would be created to hear and settle disputes over such issues as trade in goods and services and intellectual property rights and recommend penalties, while trade ministers would serve as an appeals body.

The proposed system is a departure from ASEAN's traditional emphasis on collective consensus and marks an evolution to a more legalistic and Western-style approach of dealing with problems, economists said.

Other officials acknowledged that several issues needed scrutiny, but added that they were not serious hurdles and that an agreement could have been signed but for the Vietnamese coming here without a mandate. (AFP)

Arafat Bans Overseas Calls From Office, Mobile Phones

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Socked with a multi-million dollar phone bill, Yasser Arafat has barred officials in his Palestinian authority from making overseas telephone calls.

Only ministers, deputy ministers and commanders of security forces can still make overseas calls from their office and mobile phones, Telecommunications Minister Imad Falouji said Tuesday.

The decision was made after Arafat received a phone bill for millions of dollars in overseas calls, according to a source in the ministry who spoke on condition of anonymity. Falouji said he did not have exact figures.

The source said many officials were calling their relatives abroad on office phones and mobile phones.

In the past month, one ministry ran up a bill of more than 1 million shekels ($330,000) for international calls on just one phone line, the source said.

One minister had a bill of 45,000 shekels ($15,000) for his mobile phone over two months, the source said. (AP)

OECD Membership Prompts Concern Over Short-Term Adjustments in Korea

SEOUL — South Korea's bid to join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) faces vocal objections here, with critics worrying about harsh short-term adjustments and speculative fund inflows.

Two key OECD committees at the weekend endorsed South Korea's membership, a development described here as a virtual green light to South Korea to enter the Paris-based Association of Advanced Countries by the end of this year.

"In order to push through with its policy of openness, South Korea must enter the OECD," Economy and Finance Minister Han Seung-Soo said, adding this was the right time for Seoul to join the rich countries' club.

But critics, and there are many, argue strongly that entry into the OECD must be put off until South Korea's economy grows large enough to absorb the shocks, including "hot money" inflows drawn by high interest rates here.

Economic debate aside, the controversy has strong political overtones.

Top opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung accuses the government of hurrying to enter the OECD as a political stunt to impress voters ahead of the 1997 presidential poll.

"Joining in the OECD would give the wrong impression to Koreans that they belong to a rich country, and thus worsen the current economic woes," Kim Dae-Jung said.

Government officials said OECD membership would help improve South Korea's standard of living, advance market opening and legislative reforms, protect the environment and benefit both labor and consumers.

But privately, they admitted that OECD entry has met mixed feelings here.

Local business firms are afraid of facing mounting competition from foreign imports.

Large business conglomerates are apprehensive of losing their protected status, under which they receive most favored treatment in bank loans and other government favors.

"Government officials would see their power cut back and bureaucracy may be cut down," a senior official of the Economy and Finance Ministry said privately.

On the whole, however, the entry to the OECD would bring about innumerable long-term benefits to South Korea's economy, the ministry officials said.

Specifically, South Korea's credibility in international financial markets would be upgraded and South Korean firms would be able to save between 0.05 and 0.1 percentage points in raising funds abroad.

The improved image of South Korean products in overseas markets would result in increased shipment of goods and services, including overseas construction orders, they said.

But the critics and doubters here dismiss those benefits as "wishful thinking."

Under the codes of the OECD, South Korea will have to open its financial markets wider, which economist Lee Phil-Sang of Korea University said would lead to "massive inflows of hot money" or highly speculative foreign funds. (AFP)

French Carmaker Posts Heavy Loss for First Half of Year

PARIS — Ailing French automaker Renault said Tuesday its net profit for the first half of 1996 fell 91.3 percent to 161 million francs ($32.2 million) from 1.84 billion francs ($368 million) a year ago.

The company said the outlook for its automobile division for the second half of the year could be hurt by the Sept. 30 end of a buyer incentive program.

Renault said its operating loss for the first half of 1996 came to 225 million francs ($45 million). That compared to an operating profit of 1.52 billion francs ($304 million) for the same period a year earlier.

But the carmaker said the operating loss of 911 million francs ($182 million) in its automobile division was still an improvement over the second half of 1995.

Renault said that during the first half of 1996, the automobile division was beset by price wars with competing carmakers. Its Commercial Vehicles Division, meanwhile, was confronted with a cyclical downtrend in the U.S. truck market and a slowdown in the European market.

Truck operations had an operating profit of 26 million francs ($5.2 million), down from 519 million francs ($103 million) a year earlier.

Renault lost a total of 25 billion francs ($5 billion) between 1982 and 1985 and was saved from bankruptcy by massive injections of government cash.

In 1990, it forged an industrial alliance with Sweden's AB Volvo that was designed to evolve into a full merger until Volvo shareholders torpedoed the idea in 1993.

Renault still has a 3.01 percent stake in Volvo, which in turn owns 11.4 percent of the French company. The French government reduced its stake in Renault to 51 percent from 79 percent in 1994 through a public share offer. (AP)

TV Programs

Thursday Evening, September 12

National Network. Channel 1:

12:30 Focus on Family
13:00 Call to Prayer (Azan)
14:00 News
14:30 Focus on Family
15:45 Kids Corner
16:30 News
17:00 Children's Program
18:00 Interlude
18:15 Lessons From the Holy Qoran
18:50 The Move
19:00 News
19:10 Focus on Imam Khomeini
19:35 Call to Prayer (Azan)
19:45 Religious Program
19:55 Focus on Majlis
20:25 Religious Program
20:40 Press Review
21:00 News
21:30 Commercials _ Music
21:40 Summer 75
22:15 Life and Islamic Jurisprudence
22:45 Commercials
23:00 Weekly Competition
23:15 The Altar of Love (Religious Program)
23:30 Commercials
23:40 Feature Movie

National Network. Channel 2:

13:10 Religious Program
13:20 Interlude
13:30 Thoughts
14:00 Iranian TV Series
15:00 Football School
15:30 Meteorology
16:00 Atlanta Paralympic From 2nd Look
17:00 Foreigners' Shadow
17:30 Religious Program
18:00 Computer
18:30 Automobile Era
19:00 Children's Program
19:34 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:00 Summertime Program
20:30 Scientific-Cultural News
20:45 Religious Program
21:00 Weekly Political Discussion
21:40 Iranian TV Series
22:30 News
22:45 Nightly Notes
23:00 Night-Time Program
23:30 Travel to Gilan
23:45 Great Philosophers

National Network. Channel 3:

16:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
16:10 Religious Program
16:45 Sports Program
19:35 Call to Prayer (Azan)
19:45 Sports News
20:00 Foreign TV Series
20:45 Unveiled Faces
21:30 Interlude
21:45 The Third Smile
22:45 News (in English)

National Network. Tehran Channel:

17:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
17:15 Advisors
17:40 Sport Roundup
18:30 Tehran News
18:45 In the City
19:00 Another Kind
19:15 Tehran's Districts
19:35 Call to Prayer (Azan)
19:45 In the City
20:00 Economic Magazine
20:15 Travelling
20:30 Commercial TV
20:45 Pioneers
21:00 The 5th Look
21:30 Theater in TV
22:00 News Commentary
22:15 In the City
22:30 Komail Supplications
23:20 Cinema

Friday Morning, September 13

National Network. Channel 1:

10:45 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic
11:00 Message Network
12:25 Recitation of the Holy Qoran
13:03 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network. Channel 2:

08:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
08:15 Football School
08:45 Great Philosophers
09:15 A New Day
10:00 Children's Program
12:00 Fishing
12:30 Automobile Era
13:03 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network. Channel 3:

07:30 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
07:45 Modern Basketball
08:45 Third Smile
09:45 Unveiled Faces
10:30 Foreign TV Series
11:15 Religious Program

Peron May Rise From Grave to Claim Daughter

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — The woman who claims she is the daughter of former Argentine populist leader Juan Peron expects his body to be exhumed for DNA tests by the end of the month, her son said recently.

Marta Holgado, 62, arrived in Buenos Aires on Sunday to prove that she is the fruit of a secret romance between the general who ruled Argentina from 1946-55 and 1973-74 and her mother in the early 1930s. She says her real name is Lucia Virginia Peron.

Holgado won a court appeal for Peron's remains to be exhumed from a tomb in Buenos Aires' Chacarita Cemetery to test his DNA, or genetic material, with her blood samples.

"We believe it should be carried out by the end of the month," her 31-year-old son Horacio told Reuters at the Buenos Aires hotel where she was holed up with lawyers, hoping for a court summons to present additional evidence that she claims includes 20 witnesses to her birthright.

"My mother is quite willing to go to court," said the man who could be proclaimed grandson of Argentina's most famous political leader. Peron died in 1974, but with his second wife Evita, is still evoked by the Peronist party which is again in power. His body has already been desecrated by thieves who chopped off his hands -- their motive is still unknown.

Holgado, who like her son has a clear resemblance to Peron, says stories about the general being sterile after an accident in 1913 are not true and that Evita and his third wife Isabel, who was president from his death until a military coup in 1967, both aborted children sired by Peron.

"My father received a non-traumatic blow to the testicular zone which didn't bring about any physical damage," she said.

Holgado says her mother was Peron's lover from 1932 during his first marriage, that she first saw him when she was eight, but that she did not learn he was her father until 1953, when she was 19.

She says she was kidnapped and menaced in 1971 by Isabel's henchman Jose Lopez Rega, who also tried to kidnap Horacio and destroyed her birth certificate showing Peron was her father.

Holgado denies she is after any inheritance, reported to include secret Swiss bank accounts. "I am in search of my identity, but if I am declared his daughter, as I am going to be, whatever is mine by law will be welcome," she said.

While some Peronists express indignation at what they see as another threatened profanation of Peron's tomb, the current President Carlos Menem has kept silent. So far, Holgado's face seems her strongest argument. As she told local radio on Monday: "Whenever I look in the mirror, I see dad."

(Reuter)

New Poaching Devices Threaten Indian Rhino

WASHINGTON -- Poachers are turning to new ways of slaughtering Indian rhinos, threatening the recent growth of the rhino population, the World Wildlife Fund said recently.

While poachers mainly used guns to kill the greater one-horned rhinos, they were also electrocuting the massive animals or trapping them in pits, WWF discovered in a five-year investigation of rhinos in India.

"Indian rhinos have grown in number over the last 30 years, but as soon as we let our guard down we have problems," said Ginette Hemley, WWF's director of international wildlife policy.

Rhinos were found electrocuted in Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary and Kaziranga National Park, where poachers dangled wires attached to a bamboo rod or wire hook connected to high tension power lines in the area.

Fewer than 2,000 greater one-horned rhinos are believed to be left in the world, vainly in seven protected areas in India and two in Nepal. In the early 1990s, about 200 rhinos were lost, with 100 killed in one park alone -- Manas on the border of Bhutan, Hemley said.

WWF said poachers included people from Assam in eastern India, and the Naga and Bodo ethnic groups.

Traditional trading routes out of India through Calcutta and Burma were being dropped for new routes through Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh, according to the study. Animal parts were sent from there by air to Southeast Asia, where rhino horn is highly valued in traditional Chinese medicine.

As political unrest in Assam increased, poaching also rose, Hemley said.

wwf called for tighter security in protected areas, removal of all high tension wires within three kilometers of parks, tighter enforcement measures against illegal traders and dealers, special courts to try wildlife cases, and better pay for park staff. *(Reuter)*

1960s Trailer Is "His and Hers" Present of 1996

DALLAS — Trailer homes, long a symbol of the humble lifestyle, got a new look when Neiman Marcus launched its glossy Christmas catalogue and showcased a 1960s-style Airstream trailer as its "His and Hers" present for Christmas 1996.

The Airstream's classic silver, bullet-shaped exterior hides a luxurious interior and a price tag of $195,000.

Neiman Marcus called it the "ultimate in retro-chic."

Hand-painted murals, antique rugs and brightly colored fabrics created by husband-and-wife design team Richard and Victoria Mackenzie-Childs transform the Airstream into a work of art -- and well out of the reach of ordinary Americans.

The Neiman Marcus annual Christmas book, aside from heralding the start of the Christmas shopping period, offers a wide assortment of exclusive — and expensive -- gifts.

This year's Dallas-based collection includes a $100,000 fountain pen, a Jaguar XK8 convertible for about $75,000 and an up-market dog kennel dubbed a "neoclassical pet mansion," boasting an interior green velvet cushion and selling for $9,400.

When the high-fashion retailer launched its catalogue at the Dallas Museum of Art, most attention focused on the 35-foot Airstream trailer.

Company officials said it sleeps four and is perfect for travelling holidays but that several potential buyers thought it would be ideal as a backyard cabana, perhaps next to the swimming pool.

Past "His and Hers" presents have included airplanes, a pair of Louis XIV bathtubs and a day at the circus.

Also in this year's catalogue is a replica of the "X-Wing Starfighter" from the Star Wars movie released 20 years ago.

Only one replica is available and will be sold through an auction by mail. The minimum bid was set at $35,000.

(Reuter)

"Cheerleader Mom" Goes to Jail for Murder Plot

HOUSTON — A Texas woman who allegedly hired a hit man to kill the mother of her daughter's cheerleading rival was sentenced to prison on Monday after pleading no contest to a murder-for-hire charge.

Wanda Holloway, who became known as the "Cheerleader Mom" in a case that drew worldwide attention, was sentenced to 10 years in jail but will be freed on probation in less than six months under terms of the plea agreement, her attorney said.

"She's going to jail and she's going to have to pay for her crime," Verna Heath, the target of the murder-for-hire scheme, told reporters.

Holloway allegedly planned the murder to unsettle Heath's daughter Amber, a rival of daughter Shanna Holloway, for a spot on their junior high school cheerleading squad in Channelview, a refinery town near Houston.

Holloway was initially convicted and sentenced to 15 years in prison on charges of solicitation of capital murder in 1991, but that sentence was tossed out because one of the jurors was later found to have a criminal record.

"Nobody was hurt in this case and it was a weak case in the first place," said Attorney Jack Zimmermann, who was representing Holloway in a second trial set to start in October.

(Reuter)

Latest Kevorkian Assisted Suicide Ruled Homicide

PONTIAC, Michigan — The death of a Californian woman who eluded police to commit suicide with Dr. Jack Kevorkian's help has been ruled a homicide, the Oakland County Medical Examiner's Office has said.

Isabel Correa, 60, from Fresno, died from carbon monoxide poisoning, a spokeswoman for the office said. She did not have information on whether Correa was suffering from a terminal illness. The deputy medical examiner who performed the autopsy was not available.

Correa had said she suffered from a painful spinal cord disorder that confined her to a wheelchair and had left her in constant pain for years.

Correa travelled to Michigan on Friday with her husband and other family members to seek Kevorkian's help in committing suicide. Acting on a tip, police disrupted the meeting in Correa's motel room and confiscated various chemicals and equipment they said Kevorkian planned to use in her death.

But Correa was steadfast in her desire to end her life, telling reporters on Friday night: "I came to die, and it's so sad that I have to come across the United States to see a man like Kevorkian when there should be one in California."

Correa met again with Kevorkian sometime early on Saturday and took her life with the assistance of the retired pathologist, who then drove her body to a local hospital.

Including Correa, Kevorkian has acknowledged being present at 40 assisted suicides since 1990. But his attorney, Geoffrey Fieger, said there had been other deaths Kevorkian had assisted that were not reported in the media.

An article in Saturday's *New York Times* said those deaths included a 61-year-old woman of Livonia, Mich., who died August 6, and another person who died in July.

Michigan juries have acquitted Kevorkian three times on assisted suicide charges involving five deaths.

(Reuter)

Sun-Seeking Seal Takes a Break in the Tropics

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico -- A sun-seeking baby seal who apparently decided to leave his frigid home for a holiday in the tropics was resting in Puerto Rico after coming ashore in the U.S. Virgin Islands last week.

The seven-month-old hooded seal, native to cooler spots like Greenland and Newfoundland, washed up on the Island of St. John last Wednesday, attracting a crowd of onlookers as he rolled onto his back, clapped his flippers and hopped back into the water for a swim.

Scientists said they had no idea why the young seal had decided to swim so far south. They said they did not think it was a Caribbean monk seal, a species last seen in 1952 and believed to be extinct.

A hooded seal washed ashore in Puerto Rico in 1993 but there was no record that any had ever made it to the Virgin Islands before last week.

(Reuter)

If Child's Sneezing Won't Stop, Cause Is Often Psychological

NEW YORK — The boy had been sneezing uncontrollably for six days, 10 to 15 times a minute for most of this waking hours, and nobody knew why.

It was a weird kind of sneeze, with no "ah" and all "choo" and such regular spacing that he sounded like a slow-moving locomotive: "Choo ... choo ... choo ... choo."

Four doctors had failed to help the 15-year-old patient.

Relief finally arrived at a Psychiatric Emergency Department. He revealed that the day before his sneezing started, an intimidating classmate had threatened to kill him. Once the boy started talking about that, his sneezing slowed down. Then it stopped, apparently for good.

The idea that prolonged and apparently unstoppable sneezing could have a psychological cause would surprise not only many parents, but also many psychiatrists, says Dr. Laura Fochtmann, an assistant professor of psychiatry at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

In the March-April issue of the Journal Psychosomatics, she reports that psychological factors were blamed for 31 of 38 cases of treatment-resistant sneezing reported in medical journals, including her own experience with the 15-year-old boy.

It's not clear how common this psychological sneezing is, she said. It is not discussed in psychiatric textbooks or the standard reference book of mental disorders, so psychiatrists probably aren't aware of it, she said.

And "if people aren't looking for it, they don't find it," she said.

Psychological sneezing appears to be triggered by a person's unconscious, which can create a physical symptom to gain some kind of advantage, she said. For example, the boy's sneezing kept him from having to go to school and face the bully.

Psychotherapy can stop psychological sneezing, and the problem often ends by itself without treatment, Fochtmann said.

Psychological sneezing occurs most often between ages 10 and 14 and has several distinctive characteristics, she said:

The sneezes have the locomotive-like "choo ... choo ... choo" sound rather than irregular bursts of "ah-choo."

The face lacks the typical about-to-sneeze expression.

The eyes stay open.

Sneezing stops during sleep.

Fochtmann said persistant unstoppable sneezing should be evaluated by a doctor to rule out physical causes before a psychiatrist is consulted.

One case she cited involved a 14-year-old boy who had several sneezing episodes lasting months at a time. They were finally stopped by psychotherapy and an antidepressant.

Dr. Andrew Hotaling, a pediatric ear-nose-throat specialist at Loyola University Medical Center in Chicago who treated the boy, said two operations had failed to cure the sneezing.

But the psychiatric treatment "had an amazing effect," Hotaling said in a telephone interview.

When consulted on such cases, "the first thing I now will think about is psychological," he said.

Poorer Teenagers More Likely to Have Poor Health Habits

WASHINGTON — Poorer teenagers whose parents are uneducated are more likely to smoke, eat badly, drink too much and have other unhealthy habits, according to a new study.

"Cigarette smoking was most prevalent among adolescents from families in which the responsible adult had completed less than four years of high school and total family income was less than $20,000," according to a study headed by Richard Lowry of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia.

It was published in the latest issue of the journal of the American Medical Association.

Of adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17, nearly 20 percent smoked cigarettes, 35 percent were sedentary, 85 percent did not eat enough fruit and vegetables, 33 percent consumed too much fat and almost 16 percent engaged in "episodic heavy drinking of alcohol."

The bad health habits put teenagers at risk for diseases later in life such as cancer and heart disease, the study said.

The study found that worse habits were not always linked to lower socioeconomic status. For example it found that black adolescents were less likely than white or hispanic adolescents to smoke cigarettes or engage in episodic heavy drinking irrespective of their socioeconomic status.

And the authors also warned that higher income teenagers still engaged in bad habits and called for a broad-based prevention strategy. (AFP)

Children Die Daily in Ivory Coast Hospital for Lack of Care

ABIDJAN — Several children die daily in the corridors of the Treicheville Medical Training Hospital (CHU) in Ivory Coast's economic capital Abidjan because overworked staff are unable to attend to them in time.

More than 70 children were lying on the floor in the corridors of the Emergency Paediatric Department when an AFP correspondent recently visited it. Some of them were destined never to find a bed.

A doctor was carring out initial diagnoses on the new arrivals, while two nurses and two trainees were providing treatment in shifts, working for 12 hours at a stretch.

Elysabeth Aneye, one of the doctors in the paediatric unit, stated: "Today, we have about 70 emergency cases. Some of them will not survive for the time it takes to examine them."

"We lose about 10 children each day," she added.

Those who manage to reach one of the beds in the paediatric unit are scarcely better off, for lack of nursing staff. The hospital is able to employ a total of 21 nurses in the department.

"We had one nurse for 40 beds, it was unbearable," the head of the childcare service, Joseph Andoh said. "We decided to close the first floor ward altogether while waiting for more staff."

The hospital's director, Komoe Kouadio, said that the tremendous problems were not only due to the West African country's high birth rate, but also to lack of funds arising from economic "structural adjustment".

Since the January 1994 devaluation of the CFA franc, the common currency of several African nations pegged on the French franc, the price of medicines has risen by between 30 and 79 percent in Ivory Coast.

The authorities have also been forced to make patients pay for services that were previously free. While recent measures have been taken to allow people emergency care on credit, hospitals remain a luxury most Ivorians cannot afford.

Patients or relatives of sick people put off the moment of seeking hospital care, opting instead to treat themselves or resorting to traditional healers.

"Most of the time, they end up coming to us in very serious condition," Andoh said.

More than 100 children are officially hospitalized at Treicheville, though the paediatric unit has only 78 beds and cradles. In recent weeks, ground floor rooms have been overcrowded and staff and visitors have to step over patients lying in corridors.

"The intake rises greatly between April and September because of the increase in Malaria cases," Andoh said.

Treicheville's problems have been worsened by the closure of a training hospital in Cocody, another district of the economic capital, nine months ago and the transfer of its patients.

Kouadio said staffing levels in his hospital had not been sufficiently boosted to cope. Health Ministry inspectors who recently visited Treicheville have promised to provide the hospital with more nurses. (AFP)

New Treatment Helps Premature Babies Survive

WASHINGTON — An experimental liquid ventilation treatment for premature babies who suffer from respiratory problems has been shown to improve the life expectancy of the infants, according to a new study.

Partial liquid ventilation therapy, which involves the injection of a liquid called perflubron in the lungs of the infants aided by a respirator, "markedly improved" the lung function of babies with severe respiratory problems, according to a study to be published Thursday in the New England *Journal of Medicine*.

Some 37,000 babies are born each year in the United States before their lungs are fully developed.

Researchers injected perflubron — an oily, synthetic liquid containing large amounts of soluble carbon gas and oxygen — in the lungs of 10 premature infants who were aided by respirators. They were maintained on the liquid ventilation therapy for 76 hours.

Eight of the infants survived past 36 weeks, the study said.

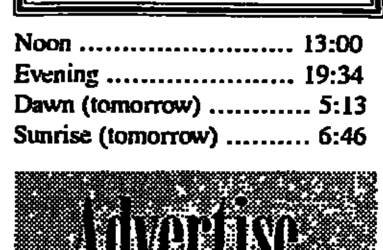
The authors of the study reported no adverse effects of the treatment.

A journal editorial recalled that partial liquid ventilation had already been tested with moderate success in adults with severe respiratory problems. (AFP)

THOUGHT

LIFE is long enough, it seems to me, but not quite broad enough.

Anonymous



PRAYER

Noon 13:00
Evening 19:34
Dawn (tomorrow) 5:13
Sunrise (tomorrow) 6:46



SCRABBLE GRAMS

BRAND

W4	D2	E1	S1	E1	P3	D2	4th Letter Double	RACK 1
M3	N1	A1	I1	K5	M3	L1		RACK 2
U1	U1	I1	E1	N1	D2	R1		RACK 3
R1	R1	R1	E1	I1	O1	S1		RACK 4
G2	T1	A1	O1	F4	E1	O1	Triple Word Score	RACK 5

PAR SCORE 145-155

by JUDD

FIVE RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7- letter word from the letters in each row. To total points of your words, use scoring directions to right of each row. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words can be found in OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

1-8-95

Here is the solution to yesterday's Scrabble

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD

A1	D2	V4	I1	S1	E1	D2	RACK 1 =	62
F4	I1	E1	N1	D2	S1		RACK 2 =	10
L1	I1	S1	S1	O1	M3	E1	RACK 3 =	68
R1	E1	W4	I1	N1	D2		RACK 4 =	18

PAR SCORE 100-110 JUDD'S TOTAL 158

1-7-95

HEALTH CAPSULES®

by Michael A. Petti, M.D.

IS COMFREY TEA SAFE TO DRINK?

7/26 JUD HURD © 1994 UFS, Inc.

IF YOU CONSUME ANY COMFREY PRODUCT OVER A PROLONGED PERIOD, YOU MAY DEVELOP CIRRHOSIS OF THE LIVER.

Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.

Ripley's Believe It or Not!

Dist. by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

TROPICAL COCKROACHES CAN REACH SPEEDS of 3.36 MPH COVERING A DISTANCE EQUAL TO 50 TIMES THEIR BODY LENGTH IN A SINGLE SECOND!

Samuel Rubin of Missouri INVENTED A SCALP MASSAGER THAT CONSISTED of a PLATFORM ON WHICH A PERSON BALANCED UPSIDE DOWN WITH HIS HEAD ON A CIRCULAR, MOVING DISK!

Believe It or Not! THE TWIN TOWERS of New York City's WORLD TRADE CENTER CAST SHADOWS THAT ARE TWO MILES LONG!

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FERD'NAND ® by Henrik Rehr

Dist. by UFS, Inc. PIB copenhagen 6-23-94 REHR. Mik

Bus Stop

NANCY ® by Guy & Brad Gilchrist

OH MY GOSH! I ACCIDENTALLY LEFT MY HOMEWORK PROJECT AT THE BUS STOP!

THEN (GASP!) A GIANT DOG STARTED SNIFFING IT!

AND THE NEXT THING I KNEW, HE ATE THE WHOLE THING!

THERE ARE TWO DAYS LEFT.. WHY DON'T YOU JUST DO THE HOMEWORK?

AND WASTE ALL THE TIME I HAVE INVESTED IN THIS EXCUSE?

© 1994 United Feature Syndicate, Inc. JERRY SCOTT 6-7

Promotion of Cooperative Sector and Improving Social Justice

"An Interview With the Director General of Sistan Balouchestan Cooperative Society

Eighteen years after the culmination of the Islamic Revolution, the decisive elements in the Iranian Muslims' success can be outlined as leadership, Islamic school of thought, unity and spirit of cooperation among people. The late Imam Khomeini's statement, "As long as the spirit of cooperation exists among people, the country will be safeguarded against any malices," proves this claim. Moreover, Act 43 and 44 of the constitutional law, introduce cooperative sector as the main ground in creating job for all and expanding social justice and also the acts emphasize on the economy development on the basis of expansion of cooperatives within all society stratums.

The Cooperative Week was a pretext and motive in arranging an interview with Rezaee, reviewing the cooperative functions and its role in economic activities of the province.

Elaborating on the steps taken towards promotion of cooperatives and preparing necessary atmosphere for their further presence, Rezaee said that capital and knowledge are two basic elements in each economic activity; the important role is undertaken by the cooperatives. Formation of cooperatives makes small amounts of money to be accumulated into large capitals.

He added what has been mentioned in the law of state master budget, are various notes like notes 3, 4, 8, 50, 52, and second paragraph of notes 64 (of the budget law of the current Iranian year) which has undertaken the responsibility of providing part of the financial facilities of the cooperatives. Regarding another dimension which is promotion of knowledge and public awareness, the province's Cooperative Headquarters performs extended programs for holding educational courses in order to promote the knowledge of cooperatives managers so that the resources will be utilized properly. During the first 5 months of the current Iranian year, the headquarters besides holding different short-term educational sessions, arranged 17 single unit courses in 510 hours (equal to 30 university credits) for members of cooperatives. Moreover 50 educational sessions has been held for 1785 cooperative members, board of directors and director generals and inspectors.

Referring to the people's eagerly cooperation in cooperative sectors, Rezaee said that generally speaking, people's inclination to take part in cooperative sector specially in productive cooperatives, is very obvious and is more than bank facilities.

He added the most important point to be pointed out here if the fact that cooperative sector, while trying to fulfill great objectives of the Islamic Revolution as social justice, increasing the state production capacity, supporting the war devotees' families and underprivileged strata and promotion of export potentialities, consumes nothing of national purse and state credits. Instead the cooperative sector bank facilities and returns with the due interest.

Taking into consideration the giant volume of services and duties on one hand, and less allocated facilities on the other hand, the importance of the task undertaken by this sector becomes clear; also the need for further support to reach outstanding results becomes comes to the surface.

He elsewhere added although, regarding quantity, the cooperative sector in contrast with private and public sectors enjoys a small portion in the economy of the country, concerning the domain and type of economical activities it is comprehensive and varied. It seems that the cooperative sector shares a larger portion in the average economy of the country in cooperative section, due to newly development of some economic activities in the province.

He added that all of the cooperatives of Sistan Balouchestan Province perform more or less the same activities. The cooperatives in the northern part of the province are active in agricultural and animal husbandry; , in central parts in industry and agriculture, in southern coastal parts in fishing and shrimp raising while the cooperatives located in border areas are more active than other cooperatives. For example, the cooperatives of this province have produced more than 30 types of industrial products and 26 types of agricultural and livestock products. Moreover, the production of 6 more types of agricultural and livestock products is underway.

> ***During the first five months of the current Iranian year 1375 (starting March 21, 1996) 56 more cooperatives with 3715 members and an initial capital of Rls.1.83 have been established in this province.***

He further said that during 1995 some 74 cooperatives with initial capital of Rls.6.4 billion, 3228 members and 1104 active staff have been established in this province.

Moreover, 30 more cooperatives with a capacity of employing 299 staff and a capital of Rls.10.7 billion have been put into operation in this province. 40 percent of them are located in Zabol, 10 percent in Saravan, 6.5 percent in Iran Shahr and the rest are located in Khash and Chabahar.

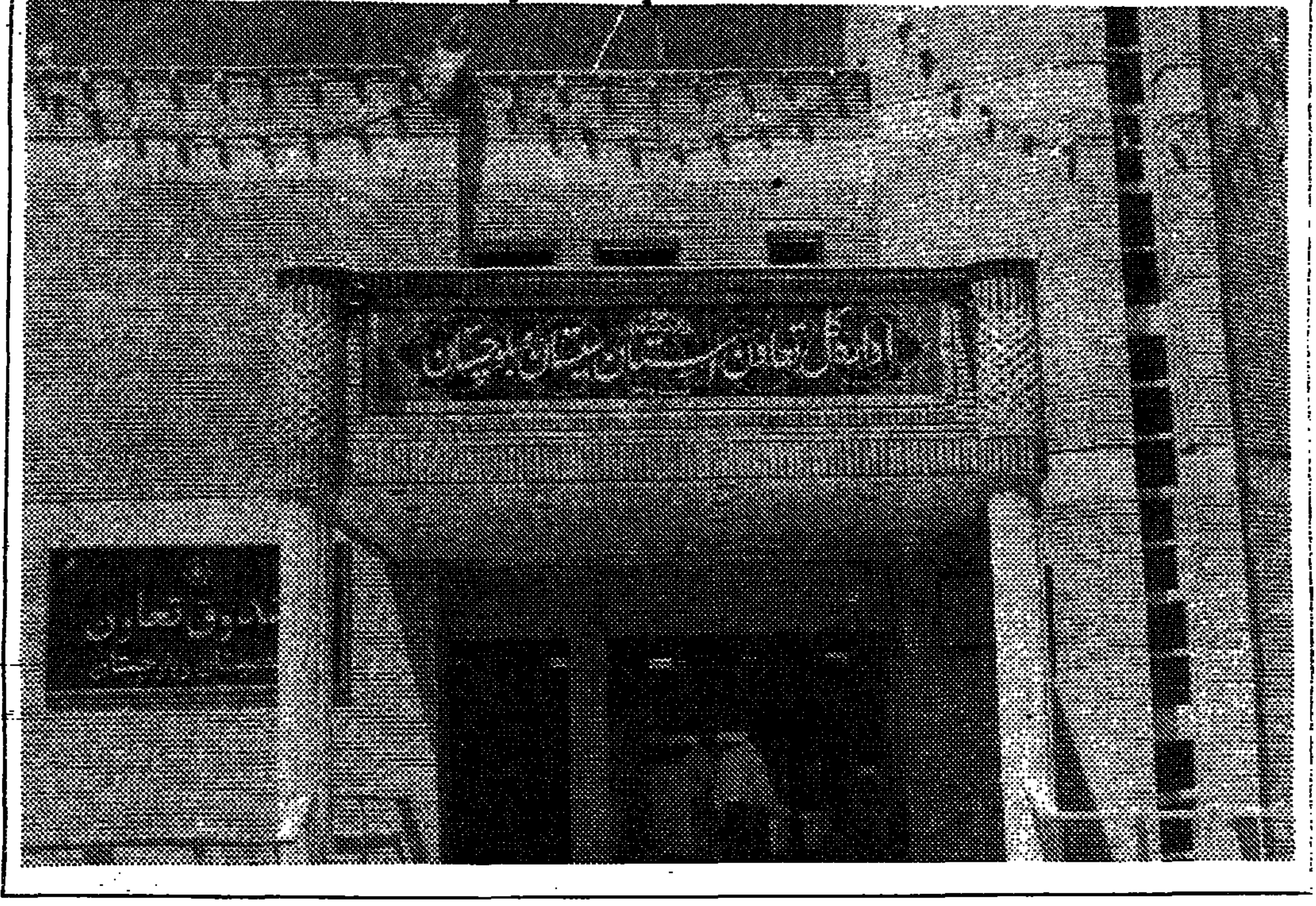
He underlined that during the first five months of the current Iranian year 1375 (starting March 21, 1996) 56 more cooperatives with 3715 members and an initial capital of Rls.1.83 have been established in this province. In addition, Rls.28 billion have been allocated to the implementation of cooperatives projects through the facilities of Clause 3 of the Plan and Budget Act of this year, to which the necessary actions have been taken so far.

On the absorption of credits by his general office, he said that during the Iranian year, 1374 (starting March 21, 1995) Rls.19.85 billion have been approved for the implementation of 44 cooperatives projects form the facilities of Clause 3 by which 91.7 percent have been allocated so far. 100 percent of the allocated facilities of Clause 4 have been absorbed during 1374 by which the agriculture section of this province ranked third in the country.

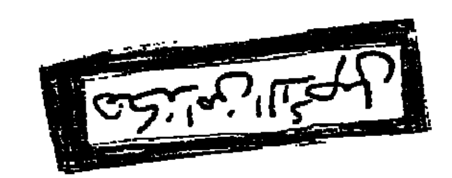
The director general of the Cooperatives General Office of Sistan Balouchestan Province elaborated on the problems facing the cooperatives and the steps taken for removing them and added that most of the economical state-run and non-governmental organizations throughout the country face the shortage of cash, raw materials and productive unites. Therefore, in order to provide the necessary capital of the cooperatives the credit shares of the provinces have increased significantly. For example, the share of Clause 3 of the Sistan Balouchestan Province has increased 40 percent.

In addition, the branch of the Sistan Balouchestan Province's deposit fund has been equipped and will start work within the next two months with the aim of providing the necessary cash for the cooperatives of this province. He further said that lack in the establishment of the cooperatives organizations in the big cities with regard to the broadness of the province and the long distance between the suburbs and the center of the province has created obstacles in the way of providing the necessary facilities for the cooperatives.

In this regard, a delegation which accompanied the minister of cooperatives in his recent visit to the province has promised to supply the necessary credits for the establishment of more cooperative departments in this province by the end of this year.



A view of the province's Cooperative General Office inaugurated by Cooperative Minister Engineer Shafei



Facing Death With a Smile



Volunteers of the Pain and Palliative Care Clinic with patients in an advanced stage of cancer.

"Business was brisk today. Everyone seemed to be dying for a cup of coffee. As if they would not be alive tomorrow to have a taste of my coffee," exults Subair who dispenses coffee from a vending machine at the Kozhikode Medical College hospital.

Subair is no ordinary coffee-vendor. For the last one-and-a-half years he has been fighting against cancer. He has only one leg, the other was amputated last year. The disease has spread to his hip bone. A former medical representative, Subair is in the last leg of his life.

He does not want to withdraw into himself. Selling coffee helps him ward off depression, so common among the terminally ill.

This 40-year-old man is one of the terminally ill cancer patients who have been taught by the Pain and Palliative Care Society in Kozhikode to live like any other healthy human being until his last breath.

On the Kozhikode medical college campus you also run into Jose, 27 years old, who paints signboards. He came to the Society with cancer of the vocal chords, and is steadily losing in his battle against the disease. His right hand is so weak he uses his left. But he has not given up and is busy writing his autobiography. "I have a few things to say about my bitter experiences in hospitals and with doctors."

Subair and Jose work as volunteers in Pratiksha (Hope) run by the Pain and Palliative Care Society for patients in the advanced stage of cancer. At meetings of Pratiksha, held once a month, the patients and their relatives meet to share their experiences.

Pain and Palliative Care Society's methodology has been economical and wide in coverage so much so the World Health Organization (WHO) has recognized it as one of its demonstration projects that should be a model for pain clinics in developing countries. Only two other clinics enjoy this distinction — one in the U.S. the other in Spain. The patients who seek its help learn to live with the disease and they die with dignity.

Take Tasleema, 12 years old, a talkative girl afflicted with malignant brain tumor. The clinic's volunteers remember her face wreathed in smiles, a bunch of fresh jasmine in her dark tresses, hopping on a pair of crutches one evening to cut the ribbon to mark the inauguration of a building for the Pain and Palliative Care Clinic which had been taking care of her. She was cheerful even minutes before she died.

And Abdul Rahman, smartly turned-out in spotless white shirt and dhoti, sporting a smile on his face. Not a person who would make you think of death. Until the doctor tells you that he has just six months to live. The smile will not have been there but for the strong dose of morphine he takes everyday. A manual laborer he has already made arrangements to ensure that his illiterate wife and young children would live comfortably after he dies.

The Pain Clinic gives medicines to relieve the excruciating pain most cancer patients experience in their last days. Those in the low income group get it free, the others are prescribed medicines which they have to buy.

"Some of these patients have to take 40 tablets, including a strong dose of morphine, everyday," says Dr. Suresh Kumar, an anaesthesiologist, who gave up a lucrative job in a private hospital to be a volunteer in this clinic.

The clinic run by the Pain and Palliative Care Society, Kozhikode, is the only one of its kind in North Kerala where the number of terminally ill cancer patients is estimated at 24,000. Says Dr. Rajagopal, professor and head of the department of Analsthesiology, Kozhikode Medical College, who started the clinic: "Palliative medicine is a new subject, only about 20 years old even in the West and not yet popular. It has not yet gone into the undergraduate or even post-graduate medical curriculum. But it is important in India because there are more than a million cancer patients who are in need of palliative care."

The clinic now has a satellite center at Manjeri run with the help of the International Medical Brotherhood (IBM), a voluntary agency run by a few young doctors.

Its activities have been silent but so spectacular that it has caught the attention of the world's experts in pain care. Impressed by its work, the British High Commission has donated a vehicle which the Clinic has been using since July as a mobile unit to call on patients in their homes when they are too weak to reach the clinic.

Experts in palliative medicine (some of the best in the field have come from abroad to study the working of the pain clinic here) have placed on record their appreciation for the effective manner in which the Palliative Care clinic in Kozhikode has been able to empower the family to care for the patient. The Society lays great stress on removing the irrational fears about the disease which often results in rejection of the patients by relatives.

The clinic has also demonstrated how the problems of resources could be tackled by supplementing the already existing facilities with resources in the form of volunteers and money mobilized from the local community. Several charitable organizations have now come forward with offers of aid.

Says Dr. Suresh Kumar, Secretary of the Pain Clinic "This clinic is different from the few hospices which care for terminally ill cancer patients in various cities in that it takes care of a larger number of patients at less cost. The Santhi Avedan Ashram, Bombay, Delhi and Goa and the Jeevodaya in Madras are modelled on hospices in developed countries and can take care of hardly 10-25 terminally ill cancer patients."

About 50 patients reach the outpatient ward of Pain Clinic every day and it takes care of over 1,000 in and around the city.

The relevance of palliative care rendered through voluntary agencies is now widely recognized since incurable cancer is not one of the government's priority areas and a terminally ill patient needs more care and attention than that of others.

With hardly few persons trained in palliative care, the discipline is in its infancy in the country. Developing countries are handicapped in the matter of resources for cancer and palliative care. Two-thirds of all cancers occur in developing countries. But they have only five percent of world's resources for cancer control.

Though India is one of the few countries that has agreed to implement the National Cancer Control Program, the funds available under the programs are shared by a few prestigious cancer centers.

All this stresses on the relevance and significance of palliative care centers. The Pain and Palliative Care Society in Kozhikode has set a model which, according to the World Health Organization, is worthy of being replicated in other parts of India and other developing countries.

(The Hindu)

Bormann Smuggled Out of Germany, Lived in Britain

LONDON — Martin Bormann, Adolf Hitler's right-hand man, lived in a quiet English village for 11 years after being smuggled out of the Fuehrer's bunker by British commandos, according to a new book.

Christopher Creighton, a former television and film director, claims he was part of the crack unit that whisked Bormann out of Berlin only hours before Allied forces captured the German capital in May 1945.

His book, "OPJB (Operation James Bond)", says Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt and Britain's King George VI all approved of the operation — the purpose of which was to help the Allies recover an immense fortune appropriated by the Nazis and salted away in Swiss bank accounts.

"It was a question of morality. The Nazis had stolen a vast sum and Churchill wanted it to be returned to its rightful owners," Creighton, who claims Bormann's fate is the "last great secret of World War II", told Reuters in an interview. "OPJB" was published at the beginning of September.

According to Creighton, who acted on Broadway with Noel Coward and in London with Sir Laurence Olivier, Bormann alone had access to the gold, gems and cash, a haul so vast that the side of a mountain had to be hollowed out to hold it.

Creighton claims that after the capture of Bormann, Hitler's private secretary, 95 percent of the plundered treasure was restored to its former owners.

Bormann, who was indicted in his absence by the Nuremberg tribunal after World War II for crimes against humanity, was smuggled into Britain, debriefed by British naval intelligence and from 1945 until 1956 lived in southern England, he said.

"Martin Bormann lived in Hampshire, near Dummer where Fergie (Sarah Ferguson) grew up," Creighton, whose credits include American TV series "Maverick" and Britain's "The Saint", added.

> *Bormann was sentenced to death in absentia at Nuremberg but was never actually brought to trial. His remains were found in December 1972 in Berlin by German authorities — a discovery Creighton labelled as "convenient".*

Fergie, as the Duchess of York is popularly called, grew up in the sleepy Hampshire village, before her marriage to Prince Andrew, Queen Elizabeth's second son. The marriage ended in divorce in March.

Bormann was a trusted and loyal aide, responsible for Hitler's finances. Hitler once called him "my loyal party comrade" and Bormann was a witness at the German dictator's wedding to Eva Braun.

Creighton claims Ian Fleming, creator of the suave British secret agent James Bond, was also part of the commando team and that while in England Bormann was used extensively by both British and U.S. intelligence agencies to help them track down wanted Nazi war criminals.

In the 1960's, Creighton worked with British actor Roger Moore, who would later play Fleming's character James Bond. Moore and Creighton were classmates after the war at London's prestigious acting school, the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

Creighton acknowledged that historians doubted the truth of his book and admitted that he had no documentary evidence to support his claims. He also noted that his story cannot be challenged by Fleming or any of the other alleged members of the commando team, all of whom have since died.

"I didn't plan it that way — to be the last survivor, but I can tell you it is the truth. Anyway, documents can be forged, but my recollections cannot," he said.

The British Ministry of Defense was unable to comment on Creighton's story. "Anyone who might have known anything around that time is either dead or retired," an MOD spokesman said.

Bormann was sentenced to death in absentia at Nuremberg but was never actually brought to trial. His remains were found in December 1972 in Berlin by German authorities — a discovery Creighton labelled as "convenient".

He claims that Bormann was flown to Argentina in 1956 but soon moved to Paraguay where he died in 1959. According to Creighton, Bormann was buried in a local cemetery, but some time later, in a deal concluded by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, the Paraguayan government and German intelligence, his remains were exhumed and taken back to Berlin.

"This is not something the CIA would want the world to know," Creighton said.

(Reuter)

Beware the Friday the 13th Virus

TOKYO — Japan's International Trade and Industry Ministry warned the information-processing industry to be on the look out for computer viruses which are expected to be activated this Friday.

The ministry said it notified the users to take precautionary measures against two Friday-the-13th viruses known as "Jerusalem" and "DADMH-26".

Disks infected with the Jerusalem virus will lose all data if used on Friday day while the DADMH virus will turn computer screens read before issuing the message: "Today is the Friday 13th. Please give me bonus!!. (sic)"

More than 40 cases of damage from the viruses have already been reported, the ministry said, advising computer users to have all disks "vaccinated" and to save important data in advance.

(AFP)

TV Satellite Owned by GE Blasts Off

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — A television relay satellite rode into space atop a Lockheed Martin Corp Atlas 2A rocket.

The slender white rocket roared off its launch pad at Cape Canaveral air station on time at 5:49 p.m. EDT (2149 GMT).

The GE-1 satellite was placed into an egg-shaped preliminary orbit about 28 minutes later. The satellite will later fire its on board rocket motor to reach a final orbit 22,300 miles (36,000 km) above the equator.

GE-1 is the first in a new generation of satellites built for General Electric Co's GE American Communications Inc by Lockheed Martin Astro Space Commercial.

It was the 25th consecutive successful launch for the Atlas rocket, which started life in the 1950's as an intercontinental ballistic missile.

(Reuter)

The Generation Gap Becomes a Chasm

The generation gap, says the writer, was a marketing strategy of early consumerism, but it has now become something far darker and more menacing, as evidenced by the increasing outrages by the young against the old.

The appearance of a generation in the 1950s which had become incomprehensible to its elders, now looks far less mysterious than it did at that time of epochal change. Then, the talk was all of 'generation gap', a new phenomenon, young people who did not pass directly from school into lifelong (and often, manual, labor), but had leisure, money and time to spend on themselves. A whole culture grew around them; legions of sociologists and commentators began to interpret these strangers from inner space to their own parents.

This coincided with the early years of a mass consumer society: The young were one of the earliest of the intensive marketing required by a consumer economy. It was also calculated that habits of purchasing acquired at an early age would last a lifetime. Investing in the establishment of predictable consumption patterns would ensure that the culture which emerged as a consequence of this development would later become a basic determinant on those who came after: A dependent and conservative youth culture would guarantee in perpetuity a demand for more of the same: Music, style, entertainment, firmly anchored in a capitalism from which it would be easy to demonstrate to them the folly, and indeed, superfluity, of alternatives.

The inability of the old to understand the young, the belief by the young that youth will last for ever, their proof against mortality — these things exist in all human societies, at all times. But in order for commerce to make significant profit out of such universal experiences, these had to be established more systematically. People had to become more conscious of them, so that patterns of consumption might be elevated into forms of identity, reflections of difference, sources of belonging.

In other words, the generation gap, with its dramas, its heroics, its tantrums, was a marketing strategy of early consumerism, a way of demarcating a group whose sense of self would be strengthened and reinforced by what they bought. Since that innocent time, it has become far more complex and professional.

It is now accepted as normal in the West that most people have little social contact with anyone but their own age-mates. This has spread throughout all cohorts, so that small children ('tots' as they are called in the popular press) meet only other tots, pre-teens no one but others of the same age, teenagers dance at the same all-night raves, consume the same alcoholic soft drinks, take the same tablets to keep themselves awake; young marrieds stick to those whose experience is similar, as do the newly divorced, the middle-aged and the retired; while the very old sit in front of the same TV programs in their nursing homes or granny-annexes, taking the same tablets to put them to sleep.

The initially benign, or at least, apparently harmless, element in the fostering of differences between the generations now threatens to turn into something far darker and more menacing.



A major problem confronting many rich Western societies — Japan, Italy, Germany, Spain, the UK among them — is that their populations have failed to replenish themselves; so that the numbers of old people are going to become a burden in the coming decades. Part of the promotion of a detached, self-conscious younger generation in the 1950s and 60s represented a contempt for the old; at the very least, a discarding of wisdom, a rejection of experience, a degradation of traditional relationships between young and old -- how could the old now instruct the young, those who were to become the votaries and dependants of perpetual technological innovation?

What accumulated knowledge could be of any use to them in the uncharted regions to which destiny was calling them? Where previous generations, even within industrial society, had learned the bitter lessons of want and work from those who had been there before them, a radical discontinuity opened up, whereby, it seemed, that the future was going to be completely different, another country, a place of continuous rising living standards, a life of constant distraction and amusement; in short, a holiday from the pain of existence.

These fostered misunderstandings, these contrived and artful barriers between young and old, will be seen, in due course, as the beginnings of deeper conflicts that are likely to emerge between them in the years to come. Indeed, outrages by children against the old are already a serious issue in many poor places. There have been examples of the elderly tormented, tortured, even killed, by young people. Such incidents, still rare enough, will certainly increase with time, because of the 'population explosion' of survivors, kept alive by technological miracles, by drugs, by all the apparatus which permit 'life expectancy' to lengthen, no matter how diminished its quality.

It is not difficult to anticipate just what forms of vengeful retaliation will occur when the young realize that they are expected to look after the 'surplus' population of those they regard as useless, the discarded, the ill-adapted, the infirm. These are burdens they will almost certainly not wish to shoulder. One can imagine in advance the arguments for euthanasia -- and perhaps more.

This future repudiation of care for the elderly has even deeper causes. The dwindling numbers of the 'economically active' will pose some awkward questions. Not only why they have inherited such a high proportion of old people, but also why they have been bequeathed a world of diminishing resources, of pollution and damage to the elements that sustain life. Why, they will ask searchingly of the survivors, did you do this to us?

We can see the lineaments of a heritage that is a far cry from the rosy imagery of today's Conservatives who have spoken of money cascading down the generations; those who seek the obvious 'solution' of privatizing the care of the old; making it incumbent upon the individual to make some covenant with insurance conglomerates to provide herself with protection against misfortune, loss, ageing and sickness — that other certain heritage of humanity.

Future strife is already clearly visible; yet no serious effort is made to take on the deep dynamics of generational estrangement which are so terrifying. Installed in a perspectiveless present, in which immediate gain, profit and advantage are the sole concern, we are increasingly using the future as a dumping ground for the toxic wastes of our hyperconsumptive present; and in the process, feeding the roots of tomorrow's hatred, resentment and anger.

It needs no great capacity for clairvoyance to see the old of the future, beleaguered, dependent upon the fragile security of locks and bolts and chains — as they are indeed already — to keep themselves safe from the outside world. As that outside world turns more hostile, less tender, to them over the existential injuries of time, who can say what further cruel visitations lie in wait at the hands of those born to a future that has already been used up, and who see the old making claims upon dwindling resources which compete with their youth and vigor?

The problem of population which once focused upon too many babies in the Third World, is likely to shift in the West to those who refuse to die. Already the old say we have lived too long. They may have to be helped to efface themselves to make way for the next generation.

There are other, important questions that arise out of this sad conjuncture, and which are also directly related to the consumer society. What has caused so many people to forego the children who would have ensured a bountiful future humanity in these rich societies? Is it selfishness, is it that — as we have heard so often in the recent past — 'We can't afford any more children', as though these were now a refined consumer good. The increasing resemblance of human beings to commodities is striking — children are 'too expensive', the old are human trash.

Is it because we want to have a good time while stocks last that we do not want competitors for resources to stand in the way of our next holiday, our new car, the next must-have item sweeping the market, the most recent fashion? Or is all this a purely mechanistic consequence of spectacular technology that keeps people alive much longer?

Whatever the initial causes, the consequences are not difficult to see. Yet there is no urgency in our discussions. We are externalizing tomorrow's problems, in the same way that we have externalized everything else, in order to preserve the balance sheet of profit and loss, the shaky economic successes measured in GDP, the dependency on a wealth that has no other measure than money.

Nemesis stalks many areas of our tainted and damaged future — the ruined resource-base, worsening social injustice, both within every country in the world, and globally, the indifference to our children and their children. Indeed, the obsessive concern with those who damage or abuse children now is, to some extent, a displacement of the fact that we are abusing future generations in advance: it is a premonitory glimpse of the suppressed knowledge that we shall have failed them: a future perfect tense in which nobody thinks, because of a fixation on the here and now, the satisfactions of the present, the quick fix and quick bucks, fast money and fast food, the gratifications of the moment, instant rewards and immediate returns. We have already plundered the future.

(Courtesy the Third World Network Features)

Aid Workers Find Starvation in Liberian Town

ROME — The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) said relief workers found "devastating scenes" when they arrived at the Jungle town where more than half of the 35,000 residents were suffering from extreme hunger.



"The situation is very bad," the statement quoted WFP food aid monitor Dipson Tulay as saying. "One old woman could not even make it to the distribution center...she dropped to the ground and died before our own eyes."

Officials of the Rome-based WFP and other aid agencies took advantage of peace moves by rival factions in Liberia's conflict.

"The children were all malnourished, many have swollen hands, swollen feet and swollen bellies and you can count their ribs," Tulay said. "The people told us that for the past seven months they have been eating leaves, wild yams, palm nuts and palm cabbage from the jungle."

"There were starving people everywhere," Kordu Brown, a representative of the Liberian Christian Relief Organization, who accompanied the WFP delivery, was quoted as saying. "Even as we speak, people are dying here."

The WFP said Monday's truck delivery consisted of corn, soya, beans, oil and sugar to feed malnourished children.

The agency said the mission to Tubmanburg would continue on Tuesday with the arrival of eight trucks carrying enough rations to feed 10,000 people for about two weeks.

Fighting round Tubmanburg pitted faction leader Alhaji Kromah's Ulimo-K Faction against one-time allies in Roosevelt Johnson's ethnic Krahn Ulimo-J Faction. The two groups signed a peace pact on Friday.

That and Kromah's handover of weapons on Saturday were the latest in a series of moves agreed by Liberia's rivals under pressure from West African leaders to end more than six years of civil war and disarm an estimated 60,000 fighters.

Charles Taylor, who launched the war in 1989 and commands the largest force, has promised to start disarming his men this month when he expects to demobilize about 3,000.

The war has killed well over 150,000 people in Liberia, which was founded by freed American slaves in 1847. *(Reuter)*



European Holocaust: History Repeating Itself

The world watches to see how much power the leading states of Europe will bring to bear upon the war crimes suspects in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

After World War II, Western European nations together with the U.S. paved the way for the birth of various charters and conventions to guard against genocide. Among the most famous of these documents is the Convention on Prevention and Punishment of Crime and Genocide (1948).

But as the ground is prodded and probed in the areas surrounding Srebrenica in Bosnia-Herzegovina, it is clear as daylight that the lofty ideals contained in the convention and other such agreements have failed to protect yet another community from massacre. How many were killed in Srebrenica? Three thousand? Perhaps eight thousand. The speculation continues as more and more bodies are dug up daily. Forensic experts, UN officials and international observers are busy excavating skulls and corpses of unarmed Muslims massacred after the fall of the "safe haven" to Bosnian Serbs.

The evidence reveals the cold-blooded slaughter of civilians. People were shot with their hands bound, others were mowed down by gunfire in an ambush and still others were blown up after being herded onto a bus. The hard evidence we now have only adds to what we already knew of the civilian slaughter that had being going on in other parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina as well, as the war dragged on over forty-three months.

Who will bear the blame for this savagery? the first international war-crimes tribunal since the World War II was held in the Hague in July. As witness accounts were presented to match the gruesome evidence from field excavations, a clearer picture of the atrocities was beginning to emerge.

In the case of Srebrenica, UN peacekeepers are taking the flak. For, by their own admission, they had abandoned the enclave to save their own skins. The commander of the Dutch UN Peacekeeping Force, giving testimony as a witness, told the tribunal that he chose to evacuate his men while the Serbs advanced on the town. He blamed the French for not providing the air-cover that he had requested. The French, meanwhile, said that their inaction was due to their attempt to obtain the release of two French pilots who were taken hostage by the Serbs. Such accounts clearly show the peacekeepers at their ineffective best. Clashing and blundering as they withdrew, they allowed a civilian refugee to fall without opposition to the ravages of the Serbian military.

SREBRENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina: An elderly woman passes a pile of debris in the center of Srebrenica. Goods left by Muslims who fled the city were thrown out from the apartment blocks taken over by Serb refugees from Krajina.

There was undoubtedly a lack of will in Europe to protect the innocents of Bosnia during the war that has now deeply divided that country. The apathetic stance is not just reflected by the inaction of peacekeepers in Srebrenica, but by the political positions of some of the most powerful nations in Western Europe — nations that stood by indifferently and even blocked attempts to rescue a failing Bosnian defense as it was being overwhelmed by the Serbian war machine.

A key player in all this has been the British government. British politicians had played an influential role in preventing the Bosnian Muslims and Croats from acquiring heavy weapons to defend themselves. British government policy towards the conflict had largely favored rewarding the Serbian aggressor territorially. In this, the British government had tried its best to draw the participation of Russia into the territorial negotiations; Russia being the traditional ally of the Serbs. It also tried to circumvent various UN Security Council resolutions in the furtherance of such adverse policies against Bosnia-Herzegovina. It is no surprise therefore that the Bosnian government had brought a case against Britain for complicity in genocide, though withdrawn under heavy international pressure.

While Britain, Russia and others can be accused of complicity, the indictments for actually orchestrating the genocide have fallen squarely on the shoulders of Bosnian Serb leader Randovan Karadzic and his army chief, General Ratko Mladic. It is the U.S., rather than Britain or any other European power, that has shown the greatest determination in bringing the duo before the Hague tribunals. Russia has in fact responded negatively to any attempt to apply pressure upon Karadzic and his general, aimed at bringing them to the Hague.

In this sense, the strongest resolve to see justice carried out in the war crimes indictment has come from outside Europe.

It is regrettable therefore that, when called upon to demonstrate their sincerity, those European governments have not responded by throwing their full weight behind wheels of justice at the Hague. They have failed to persevere against indicted persons with the same tenacity that they showed more than fifty years ago. They have thus lost an opportunity to show that they will not tolerate such awful crimes against humanity. By not acting decisively against the Serbian warlords, those governments have abdicated their responsibility to protect the people from the very horror that they had forbidden through the genocide convention.

All that remains now is to see whether they will come around and adopt a more proactive posture to address the Bosnian war crimes. One hopeful sign is France's recent diplomatic effort aimed at sanctioning the arrest of persons indicted for war crimes in order to make them face the tribunals. The world thus waits and watches to see how much power and influence the leading states of Europe will bring to bear upon the war crimes suspects in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

(Courtesy Just World Trust)

Muslims Face Obstacles to Enter Christian-Dominated Society in the Philippines

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines -- Despite hopes raised by last week's peace deal between rebels and the government, the Muslims of Mindanao have few illusions about being accepted into the mainstream of a Christian-dominated society.

The hostility with Muslims was well illustrated by government expropriation of the burial site of Sheik Mustafa, a nobleman, to make way for a golf course in 1978.

His grandaughter, Noralyn Mustafa, never received any membership privileges in the exclusive Zamboanga golf and country club. But at least the family is allowed to visit the grave.

The peace accord which ended the quarter-century Muslim separatists on Monday gave Mustafa, an Islamic studies scholar, some hope for optimism on the plight of the Muslim minority in the south.

But she says her fellow Muslims face huge obstacles to gaining entry in the mainstream of her country's Roman Catholic-dominated society.

President Fidel Ramos, a former general who fought to keep the republic intact during the bloody war said that the peace could still unravel unless the government addressed widespread poverty in the Muslim regions of the south.

He has vowed to give priority to development funds to the Mindanao region, which he said "has suffered the most and harbors many of the depressed communities of the land."

Muslim historians trace their marginalization to the systematic campaigns by Spanish and American colonial governments to dispossess them of their communal lands in Mindanao from the 18th to the early 20th centuries, when Catholic converts from the north were used to crush Moro separatists.

"The ordinary Moro is alienated from the government. They feel that government development projects are not for them because of the language barrier, and many of these programs run counter to their culture," Mustafa, a fellow at the Institute for Cultural Studies of the Ateneo de Zamboanga told AFP.

Residents loudly complain about the perceived discrimination, be it in jobs, in factories or the civil service.

With the fighting over, there are no outwardly hostile feelings between Christian and Muslim neighbors.

"Superficially, they pretend it's okay and smile at each other, but the feeling of animosity is so deep, it's almost impossible to eradicate," a young woman said.

"The moment they see in your curriculum vitae that you are a Muslim, you automatically get turned down," she added.

Even educated Muslims said they are painfully made aware of the slight.

"It's so difficult for a Muslim to get an apartment here," Mustafa said. "The moment the landlord becomes aware that you are a Muslim, 98 percent of the time he will tell you the unit has been taken."

The peace pact, which gives an MNLF-dominated state council control over development funds for the region for three years, is seen by analysts as a good start.

"I have no doubt that the peace agreement is a very historic breakthrough," Samuel Tan, director of the Mindanao Studies Program of the University of the Philippines told AFP.

While past official efforts could be said to be "palliatives in nature," the assignment of responsibility to the Muslim sector "is a great psychological boost," he added.

(AFP)

Bujumbura Quiet After Major Military Operation

BUJUMBURA — Burundi's military said Monday that the capital Bujumbura saw a quiet weekend after a big operation by the Tutsi-dominated army to dislodge Hutu rebels from the hills above the city.

"There was nothing to report apart from one or two shots fired by unidentified gunmen in the (northern) Mutanga district on Sunday night," army spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Isaie Nibizi told AFP.

No casualties were reported.

Last week, government troops said they had killed about 100 Hutu rebels and lost three of their own men in a two-day sweep in the hills surrounding the capital.

The army launched the offensive after the guerrillas lobbed three mortar shells into the Mutanga district on Tuesday, including one which landed in the university campus, but the military said nobody was hurt.

Hutu gunmen also put on a display of automatic rifle firepower in the hills in what a rebel spokesman said was a warning that they could attack Bujumbura any time they wanted.

The rebels later claimed that those killed by the army last week were mainly civilians slaughtered in massacres.

The rebels have sabotaged electricity lines leading to the capital, depriving it of two-thirds of its power, and prices have skyrocketed as the result of a month long economic blockade by neighboring countries trying to force Tutsi strongman Major Pierre Buyoya to negotiate with the guerrillas.

The rebels are seeking to dissuade Hutu farmers from taking their produce into Bujumbura, and around 1,000 farmers abandoned their smallholdings around the capital last week to take refuge in overcrowded displaced persons' camps on the outskirts.

They said they were terrified of the soldiers.

Buyoya on Saturday announced that a regional summit on Burundi, with the participation of the military junta, could take place in the next few days, after a one-day visit to Tanzania.

Tanzanian former President Julius Nyerere "has agreed to urge the calling of a summit of regional heads of state soon to reconsider the sanctions (imposed on Burundi) in the light of current developments", Buyoya said.

It was his second meeting with Nyerere in two weeks.

Dar es Salaam took the lead in organizing an embargo on Burundi following the July 25 bloodless coup in which Buyoya, a Tutsi, overthrew the country's President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya.

The blockade was ordered in support of a call for a return "to constitutional order" but also to force the authorities in Bujumbura to open negotiations with the rebels.

"This embargo is unjust, everyone knows that," Buyoya said. "Now the problem is how to get out of it. We're working hard at it. We are making progress. This summit could be an important moment, a turning point."

Buyoya did not indicate which country might host the summit.

"Not Burundi," he said. "Maybe one of the neighboring countries."

Hutus make up 85 percent of the population of 5.8 million, against the Tutsis' 14 percent, but the Hutus are mostly peasant farmers, while the Tutsis control the armed forces, big business, and politics.

Some 150,000 Burundians have died, according to Amnesty International, since soldiers assassinated Melchior Ndadaye, Burundi's first Hutu president, in October 1993.

The UN Security Council has threatened sanctions such as an arms embargo if the Bujumbura regime does not open negotiations with the rebels by October 31. (AFP)

Hashimoto, Clinton to Meet in New York on Sept. 24

TOKYO -- Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. President Bill Clinton are to meet in New York on September 24, Kyodo News reported Tuesday, quoting unnamed government sources.

The two leaders will meet while attending the United Nations General Assembly session, the Japanese news agency said.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry official declined to confirm the report.

The talks are expected to focus on such topics as the issue of U.S. military bases in Okinawa and a review of guidelines for bilateral defense cooperation, the sources said.

Hashimoto is expected to express support for the recent U.S. cruise missile attack against targets in Iraq, according to the sources, Kyodo said.

(AFP)

Murtaza Bhutto Flays Government's Foreign Policy

ISLAMABAD — Mir Murtaza Bhutto, the provincial assembly member of the Sindh Province of Pakistan, has said that the present government's foreign policy had failed to take friends at international level because, "we are used to American dominance in our national affairs which had led the country towards total collapse in every field."

Murtaza Bhutto, who is opposed to the present government of his sister Benazir Bhutto expressed that Pakistan had lost long time friends on the Kashmir issue which clearly showed the present government's ineffective foreign policy.

He made the remarks in a press conference here Saturday evening in which he advocated that Pakistan should go for immediate nuclear explosion if it wants to survive from total collapse, as this is the only way that the country can retain its supremacy in the region. (IRNA)

International Spectrum
A Glance at International Events

Tehran Times
Tehran Times Weekend Issue
THU, SEP. 12, 1996; SHAHRIVAR 22, 1375; RABIUL-SANI 27, 1417

Iran Spectrum
A Glance at National Events

The World This Week

World News

Wednesday September 4

U.S.Launches Second Attack on Iraq



U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf launched a second salvo of Tomahawk Cruise missiles against military targets in southern Iraq on Wednesday as a "no-fly zone" was expanded to the edge of the capital Baghdad.

Netanyahu, Arafat Begin First Summit

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat exchanged an historic handshake Wednesday at the start of their first direct talks aimed at unblocking the so-called peace process.

At Least 70 Percent Bosnians Turnout in Vote in Germany



At least 70 percent of Bosnian refugees in Germany who were registered to vote in Bosnian's national elections cast their ballots, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said Wednesday.

Afghan Women March Against Taleban

Some 200 Afghan women marched through the streets of Kabul Wednesday to protest against the Taleban, accusing them of violating rights of women.

Thursday September 5

U.S. Fails to Rally French Support

The United States failed Thursday to rally French support for an enlarged "no-fly" zone in Iraq though France said it would continue to enforce northern exclusion zones within the limits set after the Persian Gulf war.

Netanyahu Tries to Assure His Party After Arafat Meeting

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tries to reassure his right-wing Likud Party here on Thursday after his landmark meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat which stirred protests.

Ruling Party Wins Eight Seats

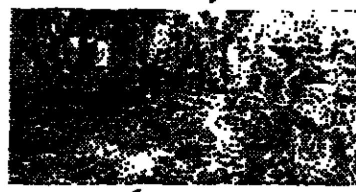
The ruling Awami League has won eight seats and the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) three in Thursday by-election in 15 constituencies, the election commission said.

Friday September 6

Malaysia, France to Defy U.S. Sanctions on Iran

Malaysia said Friday it would defy U.S. legislation seeking to bar non-U.S. citizens investing in Iran and Libya by jointly investing with France in Iran's oil sector.

About 100 Killed Around Bujumbura



About 100 Hutu rebels and three soldiers of Burundi's Tutsi-dominated army were killed in clashes in the hills around Bujumbura in the past two days, an army spokesman told AFP early Friday.

Taleban Claim Capture of Key Eastern Afghan Town

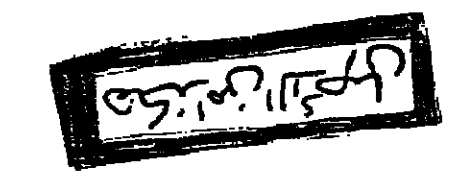
The Taleban Militia claimed Friday to have captured the strategically important eastern Afghan town of Azra after heavy fighting with Kabul government forces.

Turkey Creates Security Zone in Northern Iraq

A Turkish plan to set up a security zone along the Iraqi border to prevent infiltration by Turkish Kurdish separatists has been given a green light from the United States and a leading Iraqi Kurdish group.

Saturday September 7

First Phase of Kashmir Election Ends



The first phase of Kashmir's staggered elections to pick a new government ended Saturday, leaving four people dead in scattered violence, officials said.

India to Make Nuclear Weapon

Indian External Affairs Minister Inder Kumar Gujral asserted on Saturday that the country will produce a nuclear weapon.

"We will make the weapons as and when it suits us. We are not going to let others decide for us", the minister said.

SDA Supporters Arrive in Tuzla Ahead of Rally

Supporters of Bosnia's ruling Muslim party, the SDA, were arriving in this opposition stronghold in northern Bosnia Saturday.

Divided EU Seeks to Smooth Over Row on U.S. Iraq Strike

European Union foreign ministers met here Saturday in a bid to smooth over deep divisions on the U.S. Cruise missile strikes in Iraq that have again underlined the problems the 15-nation bloc faces as it seeks to forge a common foreign policy.

Tropical Storm Forces Airport to Close and Shelters to Open



High winds and heavy rain ushered in by tropical storm Hortense flooded roads, knocked down power lined and closed an airport for several hours in Holden Beach, North Carolina on Saturday.

Sunday September 8

Persian Gulf States at Odds With U.S.

Omani Foreign Minister Yussef ibn Alawi Abdallah said Sunday that the Persian Gulf Arab countries were at odds with the United States over its missile strikes on Iraq.

Strike Cripples Karachi, One Reported Dead

A one-day strike called by opposition parties crippled life Sunday in Pakistan's commercial capital Karachi, with one person reported killed.

Okinawa Referendum Shows 89% Oppose U.S. Bases



Eighty-nine percent of Okinawan voters supported the reduction of the American military presence on the island in Sunday's historic prefectural referendum, according to final results.

Monday September 9

China Slams U.S. Bullying of Iraq

China condemned the recent U.S. missile attacks on Iraq as a gross example of electoral posturing and a bid to safeguard strategic interests in the Middle East.

Egypt Opposes Turkish Security Zone in Iraq

Egyptian President Hosni Mobarak told his Turkish counterpart, Suleyman Demirel, that he opposes Ankara's plan to set up a security zone on Iraq territory.

Hamas Calls for Attacks on Jewish Settlers

The Islamic movement Hamas called for a campaign of popular and military resistance to halt Jewish settlement activity in the Palestinian territories.

Berri Declares Victory for Amal-Hezbollah

The coalition between Amal Movement and Hezbollah won 21 of 23 seats at stake in South Lebanon, Lebanese Parliamentary Speaker Nabih Berri announced.

Netanyahu Opens Meeting With Christopher

Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu began a series of meetings to advance the peace process with the Palestinians and explore prospects for resuming talks with Syria.

Tuesday September 10

More Than 70,000 Kurdish Refugees Headed to Iranian Border

More than 70,000 Kurds fleeing the fighting in northern Iraq are expected to arrive soon at the Iranian border, Deputy Interior Minister Ahmad Hosseini said.

Taleban Launch New Anti-Mujahedeen Offensive

The Taleban militia launched an assault in the eastern Afghanistan province of Ningarhar which is controlled by a Mujahedeen council, a Taleban official said.

Local News

Wednesday September 4

President Inspects Tea Estate, KARI



Visiting Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani inspected Kenyan Agriculture Research Institute (KARI), Muguga, Miramba tea estate and Mabroukie tea factory on the outskirt of Nairobi Wednesday.

Iran Reports New Cases of Cease-Fire Violation by Iraq

Iran has reported 21 more cases of cease-fire violations by the Iraqi regime between May 31 and June 27, 1996. The cases were listed in a letter sent by Iran's Permanent Representative to the UN Kamal Kharrazi to the UN Secretary General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

Thursday September 5

Rafsanjani, Musevini Held 1st Round of Talks

Iranian President Hojjatoleslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and his Ugandan counterpart Yoweri Kaguta Museveni held their first round of official talks here.

Iran-Kenya Joint Communique Calls For Upgrading of Ties



At the end of President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's state visit to Kenya foreign ministers of the two countries in a joint communique issued Thursday emphasized upgrading of bilateral cooperation in various fields.

Leader: Theological Centers Should Accelerate Scientific Research

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali



Khamenei said here on Thursday the theological schools should follow accurate planning to accelerate the acquisition of the science.

Friday September 6

President Voices Iran's Readiness to Upgrade Ties With Uganda

President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani here Friday night voiced Iran's readiness to expand ties with Uganda and assist cultural and Islamic centers in the country.

Saturday September 7

Iran for Upgrading Ties With Uganda

The visiting Iranian ministers of commerce and Industries, Yahya Al-e Eshaq and Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh voiced Iran's readiness to upgrade ties with Uganda.

Sunday September 8

Iran Sponsors Uganda, Sudan First Round of Talks to Settle Disputes

The first round of Iran-sponsored negotiations between Ugandan Foreign Minister, Eriya Kategaya, and his Sudanese counterpart, Ali Uthman Mohammad Taha to settle their disputes ended successfully here on Sunday.

Monday September 9

Leader Receives Representatives in Universities

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei receiving his representatives in universities underlined Islamization of the academic centers.

President Arrives in Tanzania

President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani arrived in Daressalam, Tanzania from Uganda on the forth leg of his 6-nation African tour.

Tuesday September 10

Plan Underway for Eradicating Illiteracy

A plan is underway for the eradication of illiteracy in provinces, a deputy at the literacy movement announced Tuesday.

هكذا من الأرشيف

How to Win Friends and Influence People

Classic advice on the fine art of improving human relationships

To learn how to win friends, study the technique of the greatest winner of friends the world has ever known.

You may meet him tomorrow coming down the street. When you get within ten feet of him, he will begin to wag his tail. If you stop and pat him, he will almost jump out of his skin to show you how much he likes you. A dog makes friends by being genuinely interested in people, not by trying to get people interested in him.

Yet people blunder through life trying to lure others into becoming interested in them. It doesn't work, because people are not interested in you. They are interested in themselves. (When you see a group photograph the you are in, who do you look for first?)

You want approval, recognition of your true worth. You want to feel that you are important. You carve sincere appreciation, not cheap, insincere flattery. So treat others as you would have them treat you.

Where should you begin applying the magic touchstone of appreciation? I know of no place where appreciation is more needed — or more neglected — than in the home.

We nourish the bodies of our children, but how seldom we nourish their self-esteem. We provide them with beef and potatoes, but neglect to give them kind words that would sing in their memories for years. Your spouse has some good points, too, but how long has it been since you expressed your admiration? *Do it!* And bring a smile in addition, and some warm words of affection.

Florenz Ziegfeld, the most spectacular entrepreneur who ever dazzled New York's Broadway, knew the value of making people feel important and appreciated. He made women feel beautiful by sheer power of his gallantry and consideration. He was practical: he raised the salary of chorus girls from 30 dollars to 175 dollars a week. And he was chivalrous: on opening night, he deluged every chorus girl with red roses.

All of us can use the philosophy of appreciation of the other fellow. You can work magic almost every day with little phrases: "I'm sorry to trouble you," "Would you be so kind as to...."

At a party once, I found myself talking to a botanist. I sat fascinated while he told me astonishing facts about the humble potato. After I had said good night, the botanist turned to our host, paid me several compliments and ended by saying I was a "most interesting conversationalist."

An interesting conversationalist? I had said hardly anything. But I had listened intently because I was genuinely interested, and he felt it.

Another piece of advice about the fine art of human relations came from Henry Ford: "If there is any one secret of success," he said, "it lies in the ability to get the other person's point of view and see things from his angle as well as your own." That is so obvious that anyone ought to see the truth of it at a glance; yet 90 percent of the people ignore it 90 percent of the time.

I am very fond of strawberries and cream, but I know that fish prefer worms. So when I go fishing, I think about what the fish want. It is childish to talk about what *we* want. The only way to influence the other fellow is to talk about what he wants and show him how to get it.

Arguments, and particularly unnecessary arguments, are a sure way to dissipate goodwill. As a young man I learned this lesson one night at a banquet. The man next to me told a humorous story which hinged on a quotation. He mentioned that the quotation was from the Bible. I knew it was from Shakespeare and appointed myself a committee of one to correct him. He stuck to his guns.

An old friend of mine, who had devoted years to the study of Shakespeare, was also at the table. The storyteller and I agreed to submit the question to my friend, who listened, kicked me under the table and said, "Dale, you are wrong. It *is* from the Bible."

Later, I told my friend I was certain he knew the quotation was from Shakespeare. "Yes, of course," he replied. "But we were guests at a festive occasion. Why prove to a man he is wrong? Is that going to make him like you?"

Since then, having watched the effects of thousands of arguments, I conclude that there is only one way to get the best of an argument: avoid it. Even if you win it, you lose it. Why? You may feel fine, but you have made the other man feel inferior, and he will resent you.

In talking to people, begin by emphasizing the things on which you agree. Get the other person saying, "Yes," at the onset. Keep him, if possible, from saying "No."

Socrates, "the gadfly of Athens," was one of the wisest persuaders who ever influenced this wrangling world. His technique was based upon getting a "yes" response. He asked questions with which his opponent would have to agree. He kept on winning one admission after another until he had an armful of yeses. Finally, almost without realizing it, his opponent found himself embracing a conclusion that he would have denied bitterly a few minutes previously.

The next time you are longing to tell a man he is wrong, remember Socrates and ask a gentle question — one that will get the "yes" response.

Perhaps the most fundamental lesson of all comes from Aesop's fable about the sun and the wind quarreling over which one was the stronger. The wind said, "I'll prove I am. See that old man wearing a coat? I bet I can make him take his coat off quicker than you can."

So the wind blew until it was almost a tornado, but the harder it blew, the tighter the old man wrapped his coat about him.

Finally, the wind gave up, and the sun came from behind a cloud and smiled kindly on the old man. Presently, he mopped his brow and pulled off his coat. The sun then told the wind that gentleness and friendliness are always stronger than fury and force.

And so it is today. The sun can make you take off your coat more quickly than the wind; and kindliness, the friendly approach and appreciation can make people change their minds more readily than all the bluster and storming on earth.

(Courtesy the Reader's Digest)

In the Grind

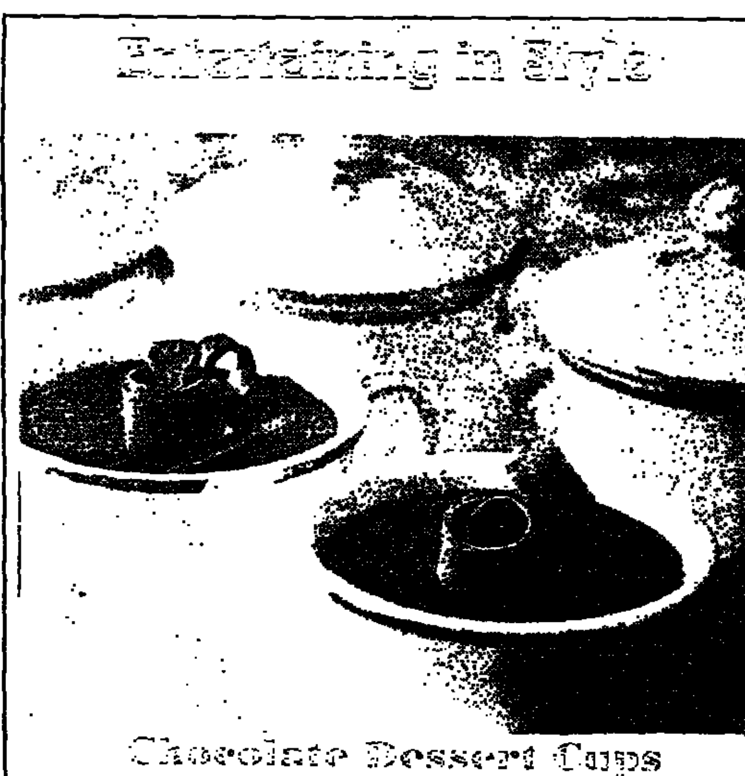
If you wake up with a mysterious ache in the temples and jaws — as if somebody had punched you while you were asleep — it is not difficult to find the culprit. It is you, and the ache probably comes from grinding your teeth in sleep. Persons sharing the room may not always be aware of your habit, because about 80 percent of 'grinders' do it noiselessly. Some just clench their jaw tightly in sleep and some keep it clenched even in waking hours. Dentists claim that they cam promptly spot teeth-grinders because their teeth are worn down in a tell-tale way. People who gnash away regularly for years can actually wear down their ivories by two or three millimeters. The effect is more obvious than we think. Worn-down teeth bring your nose and chin closer, giving you a slightly different profile. More important for slow damage to tooth enamel and structure.



Fortunately, very few people are life-long teeth-grinders. Most do it only occasionally. Till recently, doctors believed that teeth-grinding is an indication of worm infection or uneven teeth. But this theory is on its way out. It is now considered an indicator of stress in daily life — in a child it could be nervousness about the first day of school or the class bully, while an adult may be anxious about an important day at work. When the stress passes, the grinding stops, according to specialists. For people who are chronic grinders, dentists have a protective plastic teeth guard to wear at night. A long-term solution is, of course, to investigate the stress that haunts your sleep.

(Courtesy the Sunday Review)

Entertaining in Style



Chocolate Dessert Cups

You will need...

6 oz. plain chocolate
1/2 oz. butter
3 eggs
1 tablespoon coffee essence
chocolate curls to decorate

Preparation time
15 minutes

Cooking time
5 minutes

Put the chocolate and butter in a bowl placed over a pan of hot, not boiling, water. Leave to dissolve, stirring constantly.

When the chocolate is completely melted remove it from the heat and beat in the egg yolks, and coffee essence. Whisk the egg whites stiffly then fold them into the mixture. Pour into 4 small cups or glasses and leave in a cool place until set.

Just before serving top each with a few chocolate curls.

Serves 4.

QUICK TIP

Coffee cups for mousses and creams—choose small demi-tasse size cups for serving chocolate, coffee or caramel flavors. They look smart and are indeed different. Biscuits to go with these are ideally served alongside in the saucer.



Answers to Last Week's SPIRAL QUIZ

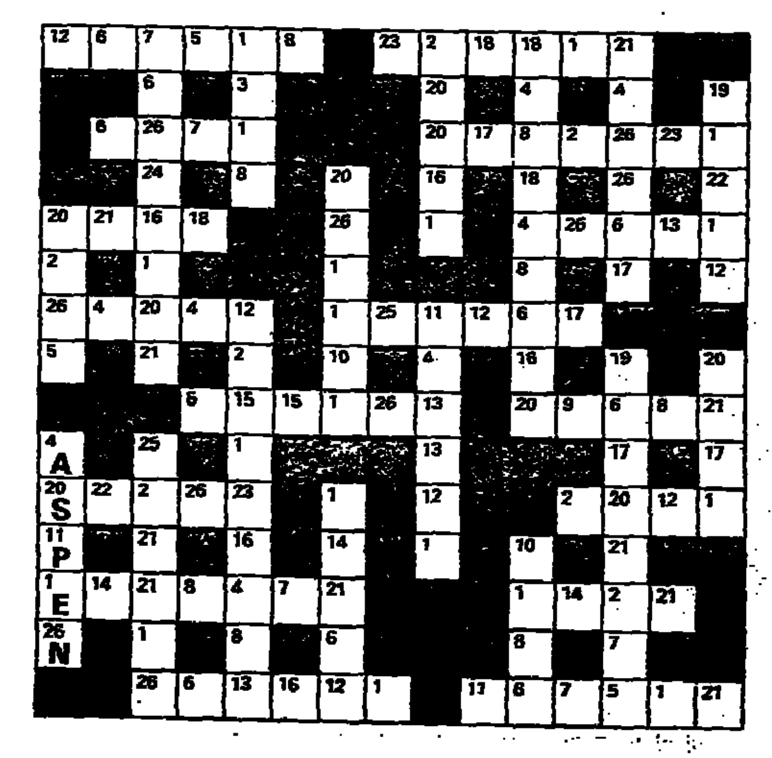
1. Marmalade 2. Decoy 3. Coypu 4. Pupa 5. Panama 6. Malta 7. Tanganyika 8. Karachi 9. Chichester 10. Terrapin 11. Pindus 12. Dustin 13. Tincture 14. Referendum 15. Dumas 16. Masochist 17. Stallion.

KEYWORD

There are no clues to this crossword, but each different number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet.

For example, we have shown you that the number 4 represents the letter "A", so you can enter this letter in each square containing the number 4.

Each letter of the alphabet appears in the finished crossword at least once, and the Reference Check will prove useful in keeping track of the letters you have decoded.



12	6	7	5	1	8	■	23	2	18	18	1	21	■	■
■	■	6	■	3	■	■	■	20	■	4	■	4	■	19
■	6	26	7	1	■	■	■	20	17	8	2	26	23	1
■	■	24	■	8	■	20	■	16	■	18	■	26	■	22
20	21	16	18	■	■	26	■	1	■	4	26	6	13	1
2	■	1	■	■	■	1	■	■	■	8	■	17	■	12
26	4	20	4	12	■	1	25	11	12	6	17	■	■	■
5	■	21	■	2	■	10	■	4	■	16	■	19	■	20
■	■	■	6	15	15	1	26	13	■	20	9	6	8	21
4 A	■	25	■	1	■	■	■	13	■	■	■	17	■	17
20 S	22	2	26	23	■	1	■	12	■	■	2	20	12	1
11 P	■	21	■	16	■	14	■	1	■	10	■	21	■	■
1 E	14	21	8	4	7	21	■	■	■	1	14	2	21	■
26 N	■	1	■	8	■	6	■	■	■	8	■	7	■	■
■	■	26	6	13	16	12	1	■	11	8	7	5	1	21

Reference Check

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
E			A							P		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
						S						N

(Solution Next Thursday)

Feature

Facets of Countries

Spotlight: Japan

SU MŌ
すもう

Tehran Times Service

Two mountains of flesh squat, facing each other across the rock-hard circular *dohyo* (ring). They glare into each other's eyes challengingly. One gets up and tosses some salt in the air for purification. They both stalk around the *dohyo* to the cheers of the crowd. They resume their positions. Suddenly there is the slap of 300 kilograms of meat connecting in the tachiai (initial charge). Gasping and heaving, they grapple for a matter of seconds and one tumbles into the laps of the audience. The crowd roars.

Sumo, one of Japan's best-loved sports, is both mystifying and fascinating. The purpose of the bout is for one wrestler to eject his opponent from the 4.5-meter-wide circular *dohyo* or to force him to touch the floor with some part of his body other than the soles of his feet. The victor achieves this through a combination of *tsuppari* (thrusting slaps) and a variety of wrestling techniques. Most matches center on contestants trying to get a two-handed grip on their opponent's *mawashi* (belt) while blocking him from gaining a similar advantage.

The sport has a history of more than 2,000 years and is tied up in a wealth of tradition. It is practiced in schools and clubs by amateurs, but is primarily a professional spectator sport. In addition to the thousands who flock to watch the six annual tournaments, it is televised and viewed by millions and is even a favorite of the Emperor's family.

On average, *sumo* wrestlers grow to 183 centimeters (six feet) and weigh in at 137 kilograms (300 pounds). Until their retirement, which is usually in their early 30s, they live in stables where they undergo strenuous *keiko* (daily training) in an environment of severe discipline. The world of *sumo* is characterized by a rigid seniority system and *maezumo* (apprentices), who usually enter the stable at the age of 15, and start their day at around 4:00 a.m. They spend much time performing menial tasks and waiting on the *makuuchi* (upper ranks).

The highest rank is *yokozuna* (grand champion), many of whom are national heroes. *Yokozuna* is the only rank from which a wrestler cannot be demoted for a series of losses: *Yokozuna* who fall on a bad patch are expected to retire. This is marked by a *dampatsushiki* (hair-cutting ceremony) at which the star has his *oichomage* (topknot) symbolically removed. It is a common sight to see these giants in tears at their *dampatsushiki* as they leave active wrestling, usually to take an official position in the *sumo* world.

Sumo is more than a sport. It is a fascinating culture in which every action and object is of significance. I am sure you will find that the more you learn about *sumo*, the more your interest in this intriguing sport will grow.

Fascinating Facts

Did American Clams Sail to Europe on Viking Ships?

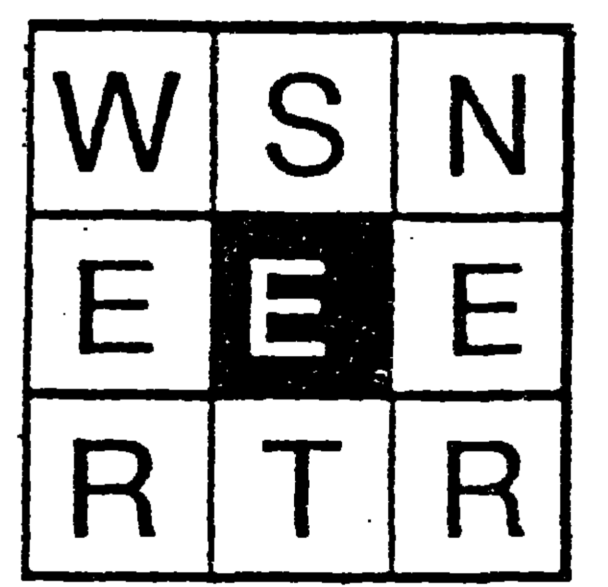


That American seafood favorite, the soft-shell clam, provides new support for the idea that the Vikings reached America before Columbus. Last spring, on a beach off northern Denmark, scientists found shells of *Mya arenaria*, carbon-dated as early as 1245.

They didn't get there by themselves. The clams are unable to attach themselves to other objects and exist in the free-floating larval stage for only three weeks, not long enough to be carried across the Atlantic by sluggish ocean currents. But Viking ships made brisk transatlantic voyages in as little as three weeks, says Kaj Strand Petersen of the Geological Survey of Denmark. He believes the clams arrived in Europe with the returning Vikings, either as food or as larvae that hitchhiked in the bilge water or on the decks of wooden ships before burying themselves in the sandy Danish sea bottom. (Courtesy of *National Geographic*, April 1993.)

Brain Teaser

GET ON TARGET



How many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here? In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each word must contain the center letter, and there must be at least one nine-letter word in the list. No plurals or verb forms ending in -s; no foreign words; no words with initial capital; no hyphenated words.

(Answers will appear next week.)

Laughter Capsules

Reasons Wry

My 80-year-old father had a keen sense of humor. We were playing a trivia game once, and it was my turn to ask him a question. "Which is faster," I read from the printed card, "a toad or a frog?"

"Obviously, a toad," he answered, without the slightest hesitation.

Amazed, I asked, "How in the world can you possibly know that?"

"A toad has to be faster," he explained. "You never see 'toad legs' on a restaurant menu."

Always Thinking

One night I was helping my third-grade son with his English assignment. "What is a noun?" I asked.

"A person, place or thing," he replied.

' then asked, "What is a pronoun?"

I could see the wheels turning in his head before he answered, "A really good noun."

Dear Friend,

We are writing to you in hopes that you share our concern about current and pending U.S. sanctions toward Iran that are ineffective and counterproductive. We trust you will consider joining us in supporting an appeal for a more constructive policy.

As you may know, President Clinton last year canceled an agreement between an American oil company, Conoco, and Iran. Under intense pressure from Congress, the President later issued a severe Executive Order prohibiting trade and commerce between our two countries.

International sanctions, the scholars tell us, work best when applied universally, quickly and against a vulnerable target. By such objective standards, information collected by our staff documents the failure of U.S. sanctions against Iran. Our European and Asian allies all continue to trade extensively with Iran. The U.S. State Department and CIA have admitted that the unilateral American sanctions against Iran have not had lasting impact, have not advanced intended goals and are unlikely ever to do so. Instead, the multi-billion dollar Conoco deal was snapped up by the French oil company Total, a previously proposed deal with Boeing may soon go to Europe's Airbus and massive regional pipeline projects will go to anyone but the U.S.A. Tens of thousands of high-paying American jobs are thus being needlessly handed over to our competitors.

Rather than face the failure of our policy, the U.S. Congress has recently passed a bill to impose unprecedented punitive sanctions against any foreign company that helps Iran develop its oil and natural gas. This bill has infuriated our most important trading partners, who cite international trade norms while threatening serious retaliatory action against U.S. businesses.

We trust you agree that the time has come to reexamine our Iran sanctions policy, especially in light of our economic and strategic interests. If you agree, then please consider joining us in sending this message to our policymakers. Encourage your friends and colleagues to do the same.

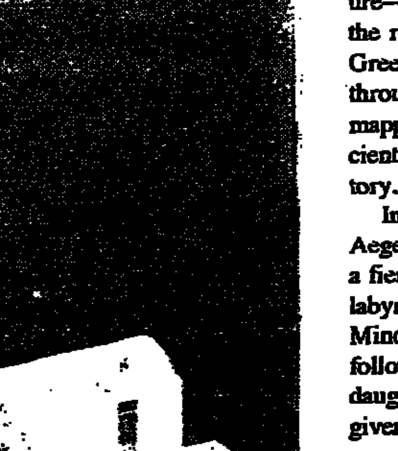
By working together in growing numbers, we may yet cause vital questions to be asked, alternative policies to be considered and the dangerous spiral of worsening relations to be reversed. With hopes for a more peaceful and constructive future, we remain...

Sincerely yours,
Board of Directors
Iranian Americans Cultural Council
655 15th St. N.W.
Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20005

Travelogue



Summer Holiday in the Aegean Sun



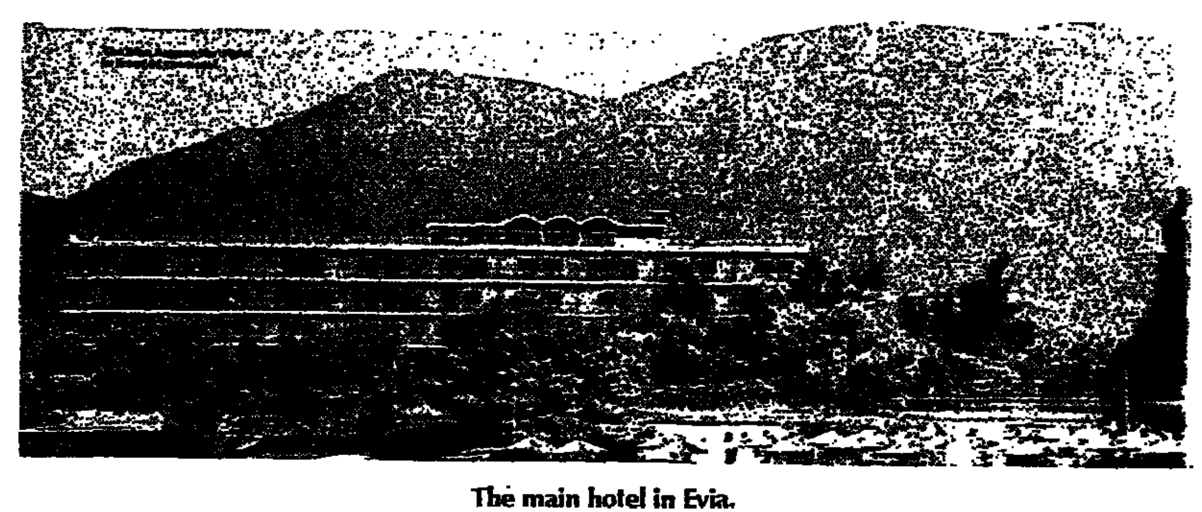
The Aegean, heart of Greek culture.

A center of culture for hundreds of years, the Aegean Sea is also a haven of leisure in a world immersed in technology.

The Aegean is as much the heart of Greek life today as it was through the many centuries of Greek history. The sea has an all-pervading influence in Greek life—no part of Greece is far from the sea. Today the Greeks and visitors from around the world base their leisure on the Aegean.

It offers more than just pleasure—the sea mirrors the spiritual, the reflective, the creative side of Greek life. It takes the visitor through a maze of discoveries, mapping out along the way ancient legends and centuries of history.

In legend, Theseus, King Aegeas' son, slew the Minotaur, a fierce half-man, half-bull, in the labyrinth beneath the Palace of Minos in Crete. To escape, he followed a rope which Ariadne, daughter of King Minos, had given him.



The main hotel in Evia.

The lovely island of Evia, just 30 miles north of Athens and separated from the mainland by the channel of the Euripus, is a choice holiday spot.

Overlooking the Aegean sea, the island is sheltered by a friendly range of surounding mountains and blessed with a gorgeous climate. Superb scenery, both by land and sea, sun-bleached villages, little harbors bright with gaily painted boats, olive groves and vineyards, soft-eyed donkeys, splendid ruins, tiny churches with roof-top crosses dot the island.

In the aroma of Greek fare and the living atmosphere of a taverna, visitors leave behind the world dominated by technolgy and go back to the world of classical beauty and culture.

The Aegean is so important to the Greeks because it mirrors Greek history and Greek history is so important to the world because so much of the world's heritage comes from Greek civilization.

After experiencing perfection and harmony, the visitor is much stronger and better able to cope with the modern world of technology. (Courtesy of *World Expo '88* Souvenir Program)



هكذا من الأصل

1848 — Switzerland adopts new constitution as a federal union with strong central government.

1890 — British South Africa Company founds Salisbury in Rashonaland, Rhodesia.

1919 — Gabriel D'annunzio leads unofficial Italian army to seize Fiume.

1944 — First U.S. troops reach German soil in World War II.

1964 — Dissident army officers try unsuccessfully to overthrow government of South Vietnam.

1976 — Chinese leaders gather in Peking for funeral of Mao Tes-Tung.

1986 — Isreali fighter-bombers strafe suspected Palestinian guerrilla coastal base near south Lebanon's port of Sidon.

1987 — Communist rebels battle troops in fierce fighting near Manila.

1988 — Medical teams work round the clock to prevent epidemics in wake of floods that devastated Bangladesh.

1993 — Rebel Serbs in Croatia launch rocket attacks against the Croatian government near the capital, and publicize a list of possible future targets.

CANDID CAMERA

Photo: Abbas Kowsari

TOMORROW IN HISTORY

1955 - West Germany and Soviet Union establish diplomatic relations — their first since World War II.

1964 - Egypt and Saudi Arabia announce agreement of peaceful settlement of two-year-old Yemeni civil war.

1966 - B.J. Vorster is elected prime minister of South Africa.

1970 - Israel arrests 450 Arabs in occupied Jordan and says it will exchange them for hostages held by guerrillas.

1975 - U.S. Defense Department defers planned 8,000-man reduction in support of troops in West Germany on grounds it would weaken U.S. in Europe.

1988 - Heavy combat in rebel strongholds in northern El Salvador kills or wounds more than 30 leftist guerrillas and government troops.

1993 - Israel and the PLO sign peace accord in Washington.

1994 - Some 180 nations at UN International Conference on Population and Development adopt a 20-year blueprint to slow world population growth.

A Day's Wait

By Ernest Hemingway (1898-1961)

*Ernest Hemingway was born in Oak Park, near Chicago. After leaving high school, he went to work on the Kansas City Star; he learned a great deal about exactness and style in reporting for this newspaper, which was known for its high standards. His experiences in World War I gave him material for many of his short stories and some of his novels, including the well-known **A Farewell to Arms** and **The Sun Also Rises**. He gained background for the novel **For Whom the Bell Tolls** when he went to Spain during the Spanish Civil War to write newspaper articles. He was awarded the 1954 Nobel Prize for Literature. As a boy, Hemingway spent much time hunting, fishing, and exploring in the wild country of northern Michigan. In late years, he was attracted to bullfighting in Spain and big-game hunting in Africa. His observations provided background for other works, in which he concerned himself with man's courage in facing strong physical forces. These books include **Death in the Afternoon**, on bullfighting, and **Green Hills of Africa**, on big-game hunting. In the story here (from a collection of stories, **Winner Take Nothing**, Published in 1933), Hemingway shows the feelings of a boy who, through a misunderstanding, thought he was facing death. The story is very short and might appear on first reading to be nothing more than a simple anecdote; the theme, nonetheless, is a serious one.*

He came into the room to shut the windows while we were still in bed and I saw he looked ill. He was shivering, his face was white, and he walked slowly as though it ached to move.

"What's the matter, Schatz?"

"I've got a headache."

"You better go back to bed."

"No. I'm all right."

"You go to bed. I'll see you when I'm dressed."

But when I came downstairs he was dressed, sitting by the fire, looking a very sick and miserable boy of nine years. When I put my hand on his forehead I knew he had a fever.

"You go up to bed," I said, "you're sick."

"I'm all right," he said.

When the doctor came he took the boy's temperature.

"What is it?" I asked him.

"One hundred and two."

Downstairs, the doctor left three different medicines in different colored capsules with instructions for giving them. One was to bring down the fever, another a purgative, the third to overcome an acid condition. The germs of influenza can only exist in an acid condition, he explained. He seemed to know all about influenza and said there was nothing to worry about if the fever did not go above one hundred and four degrees. This was a light epidemic of flu and there was no danger if you avoided pneumonia.

Back in the room I wrote the boy's temperature down and made a note of the time to give the various capsules.

"Do you want me to read to you?"

"All right. If you want to," said the boy. His face was very white and there were dark areas under his eyes. He lay still in the bed and seemed very detached from what was going on.

I read aloud from Howard Pyle's *Book of Pirates*; but I could see he was not following what I was reading.

"How do you feel, Schatz?" I asked him.

"Just the same, so far" he said.

I sat at the foot of the bed and read to myself while I waited for it to be time to give another capsule. It would have been natural for him to got to sleep, but when I looked up he was looking at the foot of the bed, looking very strangely.

"Why don't you try to sleep? I'll wake you up for the medicine."

"I'd rather stay awake."

After a while he said to me, "You don't have to stay in here with me, Papa, if it bothers you."

"It doesn't bother me."

"No, I mean you don't have to stay if it's going to bother you."

I thought perhaps he was a little light-headed and after giving him the prescribed capsules at eleven o'clock I went out for a while. It was a bright, cold day, the ground covered with a sleet that had frozen so that it seemed as if all the bare trees, the bushes, the cut brush and all the grass and the bare ground had been varnished with ice. I took the young Irish setter for a walk up the road and along a frozen creek, but it was difficult to stand or walk on the glassy surface and the red dog slipped and slithered and I fell twice, hard, once dropping my gun and having it slide away over the ice.

We flushed a covey of quail under a high clay bank with overhanging brush and I killed two as they went out of sight over the top of the bank. Some of the covey lit in trees, but most of them scattered into brush piles and it was necessary to jump on the ice-coated mounds of brush several times before they would flush. Coming out while you were poised unsteadily on the icy, springy brush they made difficult shooting and I killed two, missed five, and started back pleased to have found a covey close to the house and happy there were so many left to find on another day.

At the house they said the boy had refused to let any one come into the room.

"You can't come in," he said, "You mustn't get what I have." I went up to him and found him in exactly the position I had left him, white-face, but with the tops of his cheeks flushed by the fever, staring still, as he had stared, the foot of the bed.

I took his temperature.

"What is it?"

"Something like a hundred," I said. It was one hundred and two an four tenths.

"It was a hundred and two," he said.

"Who said so?"

"The doctor."

"Your temperature is all right," I said. "It's nothing to worry about."

"I don't worry," he said, "but I can't keep from thinking."

"Don't think," I said. "Just take it easy."

"I'm taking it easy," he said and looked straight ahead. He was evidently holding tight onto himself about something.

Take this with water."

"Do you think It will do any good?"

"Of course it will."

I sat down and opened the Pirate book and commenced to read, but I could see he was not following, so I stopped.

"About what time do you think I'm going to die?" he asked.

"What?"

"About how long will it be before I die?"

"You aren't going to die. What 's the matter with you?"

"Oh, yes, I am. I heard him say a hundred and two."

"People don't die with a fever of one hundred and two. That's a silly way to talk."

"I know they do. At school in France the boys told me you can't live with forty-four degrees. I've got a hundred and two."

He had been waiting to die all day, ever since nine o'clock in the morning.

"You poor Schatz," I said. "Poor old Schatz. It's like miles and 100 kilometers. You aren't going to die. That's a different thermometer.

On that thermometer thirty-seven is normal. On this kind it's ninety-eight."

"Are you sure?"

"Absolutely," I said. "It's like miles and kilometers. You know, like how many kilometers we make when we do seventy miles in the car?"

"Oh," he said.

But his gaze at the foot of the bed relaxed slowly. The hold over himself relaxed too, finally, and the next day it was very slack and he cried very easily at little things that were of no importance.



